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UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

In keeping with General Assembly resolution 2029 (XX) of 22 November 1965 and in response to Governing Council decision 79/22 of 28 June 1979 and General Assembly resolution 37/232 of 20 December 1982, the Secretary-General reports annually on the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations.

As of 1 March 1992, the Department of Economic and Social Development was established, replacing the former Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, as part of the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General for the restructuring of the United Nations Secretariat. DESD is now to be superseded in the area of technical cooperation activities by the Department for Development Support and Management Services (DDSMS), consistent with the approval by the General Assembly of further measures for restructuring the United Nations in the economic and social sectors. The present report reviews the technical cooperation activities undertaken during this period of reorganization of structures and realignment of functions, designed to make the United Nations more effective in the conduct of its operations.

The report provides a look to the future with the establishment of the new Department, and addresses policy and thematic concerns in the work of DESD in 1992. Reference is made to Governing Council decisions 92/34 of 26 May 1992 and 93/7 of 18 February 1993 on United Nations technical cooperation activities and to other intergovernmental requests and mandates that have provided guidance in the past year.

A description of activities by substantive sector and by type of programme support is contained in addendum 1. Information on the work of other United Nations entities under the authority of the Secretary-General is contained in addendum 2. Statistical information is contained in addendum 3.

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FOREWORD

1. The United Nations is facing new demands and challenges. It is reshaping its structures in the economic and social sectors while continuing and evolving its technical cooperation capabilities in support of developing countries. The present report reflects this flux by: (a) providing information and perspective on recent and ongoing changes and (b) reviewing several main thematic and cross-sectoral emphases in United Nations technical cooperation activities in 1992.

2. Two decisions of the Governing Council on United Nations technical cooperation activities have been influential in the past year. In its decision 92/34 of 26 May 1992, the Council emphasized the importance of closer cooperation between DESD and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and provided guidance on efforts for national capacity-building and DESD thematic work and new initiatives. In its decision 93/7 of February 1993, the Council sought to ensure that attention would be paid to several of its concerns by the General Assembly when considering the Secretary-General's proposals on restructuring, notably those pertaining to the relocation of the Office for Project Services (OPS) as a semi-autonomous entity in the new Department of Development Support and Management Services (DDSMS).

3. Information on recent work in two important areas has not been covered in this document, but will be presented separately to the Governing Council. The first area concerns a report submitted to the Secretary-General on the results of the task force set up to facilitate the OPS merger. The second concerns the initial report on implementation by the Department of relevant portions of General Assembly resolution 47/199 of 22 December 1992 on the operational activities of the United Nations system.

4. On other matters, the Department has participated in the start of the new UNDP support costs arrangements, including technical support services at the programme level (TSS-1) and at the project level (TSS-2), as well as administrative and operational services (AOS). A number of TSS-1 exercises are in progress. The Department is giving close attention to its changing role as an agent for technical cooperation, particularly in the context of the national execution of projects. It has intensified its efforts toward institution-building and human resource development, directing particular attention to the strengthening of developing country institutions. As discussed in part two of the present report, and given in more detail in addendum thereof emphasis is placed on assistance in designing, implementing and evaluating programmes that are economically efficient, socially appropriate and environmentally sound.

Part one

A LOOK TO THE FUTURE: THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

5. The efforts under way for restructuring and revitalizing the work of the United Nations in the economic and social sectors are extremely important. As the Secretary-General has made clear, peacemaking, peace-keeping, and peace-building are intertwined elements in the work of the Organization. A central concern is to strengthen the ability of the United Nations to achieve its purposes, including the assurance of adequate support for the Secretary-General's managerial and coordination responsibilities in the development sphere.

6. The first phase of United Nations restructuring was inaugurated shortly after the Secretary-General took office. The General Assembly took note of his initiative in its resolution 46/232 of 2 March 1992. In pursuance of this, the Department of Economic and Social Development (DESD) was established, including responsibility for technical cooperation programmes and projects financed by UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and other funding agencies. DESD combined six pre-existing Secretariat entities, including the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation, the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development (DTCD), the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (DIESA), the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC), the Centre for Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) and the Division of Economic and Social Council Affairs and Secretariat Services.

7. In light of the work of a high-level panel of advisers, and taking into account discussions in the General Assembly and elsewhere, the Secretary-General has now taken further steps which constitute the second phase of the reform effort. An outline of the new arrangements was given in a note (A/47/753) submitted to the General Assembly on 3 December 1992. Details were developed in the revised budget estimates for the 1992-1993 biennium (A/C.5/47/88), which were approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/212 B of 6 May 1993.

8. As part of this phase, a new Department of Development Support and Management Services (DDSMS) is to be established, with structure and functions designed to sharpen the focus and enhance the impact of United Nations technical cooperation to meet the priority requirements of developing countries and countries in transition.

9. The new Department has a twofold focus. It will:

(a) Act as an executing agency, as required, for programmes/projects relating to institutional development and human resources development in such selected areas as development planning, policies and infrastructure; public administration; private sector development and enterprise management; financial management and accounting; and natural resources and energy planning and management;

(b) Be the focal point at United Nations Headquarters for the provision of management services and implementation functions for technical cooperation. In

this regard, the Secretary-General has envisaged that OPS, currently located in UNDP should be incorporated into the Department as a semi-autonomous entity.

10. The Department will contribute to the provision of substantive support to intergovernmental bodies addressing issues in the above areas. It will also act as the focal point for reporting to the Economic and Social Council and the Governing Council on United Nations technical cooperation activities.

11. In establishing these new arrangements, the Secretary-General has expressed his commitment to preserving and enhancing the demonstrated abilities of OPS. Several conditions have been identified which are to be met to maintain the capabilities of OPS and to bring even greater efficiency to the new structure. The strengths of the entities concerned are to be combined to create a new and stronger organization.

12. As further indicated in document A/C.5/47/88, the Secretary-General has established a task force, under the chairmanship of the Under-Secretary-General for DDSMS and with participation from the Department of Administration and Management, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, the Office of Legal Affairs, and UNDP, including OPS. The purpose of the task force is to review procedures to be put in place for the functioning of OPS in its new location, bearing in mind the conditions cited for the continued effective functioning of OPS.

13. In adopting resolution 47/212 B, on the revised budget estimates and related programmatic justifications, the General Assembly noted that "the modalities of the proposed integration" of OPS into DDSMS would first be considered by the Governing Council and subsequently by the General Assembly, in the light of a report of the Secretary-General on the work of the task force. The Governing Council will be apprised of the report of the task force to the Secretary-General, as well as its implications. A more detailed report, including relevant financial aspects, is to be prepared for submission to the General Assembly, in the context of the United Nations proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

14. Without going into detail on the work of the OPS task force, it may be said that good progress has been made, with agreements in the areas of: (a) finance; (b) personnel; (c) procurement; and (d) relationships. The main findings of the task force demonstrate that the merger is workable and should be beneficial to all concerned. Synergy and increased effectiveness are sought in the creation of the new entity, which will allow for the delegation of authority and flexibility of procedures. The task force wishes to ensure that OPS, and indeed the Secretariat, will be as flexible, efficient and dynamic as possible in the conduct of United Nations technical cooperation activities.

15. The issue of the governance mechanism that will apply to the new entity has received special attention. It is desired that the Governing Council have a strong role in the programmatic and budgetary review of OPS and the new Department. The task force has looked to the recent General Assembly legislation on the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) as a model for this relationship. Governing Council supervision and guidance will be essential to the work of the new entity. Similarly, it will be important to draw on the linkages with UNDP at headquarters and in the field.

16. The relationship with UNDP is a prime element in the new arrangements. Indeed, as stated in document A/C.5/47/88, the sharpening of focus in the work of various operational entities of the United Nations, and the creation of a more unified and collaborative system, are key objectives of the restructuring process. In this context, an integral component of the restructuring is a reassertion of the role of UNDP as the central funding and coordinating body in the operational activities of the United Nations system.

Part two

THEMATIC AND CROSS-SECTORAL WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

17. From early 1992 until the establishment of DDSMS, United Nations technical cooperation activities have been carried out through the Department of Economic and Social Development (DESD). As described in addendum 1 to the present document, these activities may be divided into several substantive sectors, including development issues and policies, natural resources and energy, public administration and finance, statistics, population, transnational corporations and science and technology. The Department's support for development has been obtained through projects, advisory services, group training and publications.

18. In building for the future, however, special prominence must be given to the thematic and cross-sectoral aspects of the work of the Department. This section of the report thus focuses on several topics that constitute new initiatives, as well as the ongoing significant efforts of the Department in relation to Africa and least developed countries, environment, evaluation, women in development, and technical cooperation among developing countries. The catalytic role of the United Nations regular programme of technical cooperation receives special mention.

I. NEW INITIATIVES

19. Peace-building. In keeping with the priorities established in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace", the Department has expanded its concerns. In 1992 the Department, in cooperation with the Government of the Russian Federation and the United Nations Department of Political Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), organized a conference on conversion of the aerospace complex and related technology assessment for development, which was held in Moscow. Moreover, the availability within the Department of expertise in applied geology has made it possible to provide assistance in land-mine clearance within the context of the United Nations interdepartmental committee which deals with mine-and-munition clearance.

20. Improvement of governance. Re-design and improvement of government structures and processes are now global trends. In 1992 the Department provided advisory services and project support to many central institutions of Governments to assist their administrative reform efforts. Ministerial-level

forums on government were also organized in such countries as Jamaica and Egypt, and various training seminars on civil service reform were held in Africa and Asia. Key missions in public-sector management reform were undertaken to India and Bangladesh with TSS-1 resources. Regional seminars and training workshops on decentralization and administrative adjustment were held in the Republic of Korea, Tunisia, and the Central African Republic. Special action research and advisory missions were undertaken in several eastern and central European countries, including Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and the former Czechoslovakia, to assist in restructuring their systems of government.

21. Electoral administration. The Department worked with the newly-created Electoral Assistance Unit in the Department of Political Affairs, in providing technical advisory services to a number of Governments for the organization of elections. A large-scale effort to assist in the national election held in Angola in September 1992 focused on the coordination of foreign assistance and on logistical support. Other electoral missions were conducted in Albania, Mali, Ethiopia, and Mozambique. Preparatory advisory missions were also fielded to provide assistance in connection with future elections foreseen in El Salvador, Lesotho, Rwanda and Uganda.

22. Privatization. The concept of privatization has gathered support in almost every country, irrespective of its political or economic system, the size of its public sector or the level of economic development achieved. Privatization of public enterprises has been widely promoted as an efficient means of strengthening market-oriented reforms. At the same time, problems and constraints have surfaced in the execution of policies. The Department is supporting national efforts to implement privatization and related policies in the context of economic reforms. Special recognition is given to the important role that foreign investment can play in the privatization process. The Department focuses on the formulation of general policy conducive to private-sector development, the enhanced development of entrepreneurship and business and increased access of enterprises to finance through the development of their countries' financial sector.

23. Investing in Central American development. A project to strengthen the investment process in seven Central American countries is part of the Special Plan of Economic Cooperation for Central America, which is financed through UNDP and aims at increasing the financial resources available for economic and social development and pacification. The goal of the project, which is based at San Salvador, is to strengthen the national institutions responsible for programming, executing and following up on public investment programmes. The Department assists in defining, establishing and improving the institutional, technical and legal framework of investment programmes. In addition to performing activities at national level, the project assists in identifying regional projects. International financial institutions have already expressed interest in the investment programmes being developed, and donors will be invited to discuss funding and institutional support.

24. Economies in transition. Countries in transition from centrally planned to market economies are experiencing rapid, complex and far-reaching changes. In May 1992, recognizing the impact of such economies on world development, growth and stability, the Department set up a Transitional Economies and Free Zones Section. Assistance programmes in this field of action may focus on the

analysis, design and implementation of national transformation and privatization strategies; on the training of entrepreneurs, financiers and corporate managers and on specific investment promotion activities. Technical assistance can also be provided in the drafting of investment legislation, tax and other fiscal regulations affecting transnational corporations and natural-resource and environmental legislation; in the negotiation of joint-venture equity and management contracts and technology-transfer contracts; in the review and restructuring of ongoing contractual arrangements and in the development of enterprises.

25. New independent States. The Department is coordinating the United Nations response to the countries of the former Soviet Union within the international assistance effort. An inter-agency task force on the new independent States has organized the participation of the United Nations system in the three international ministerial-level coordinating conferences scheduled to be held in Washington D.C., Lisbon and Tokyo, respectively. The task-force mechanism acts as a clearing-house for information. A compendium has been issued on the current involvement of the United Nations system in the new independent States, in which relevant technical assistance and advisory capacities are described. A newsletter on the new independent States is issued regularly.

II. AFRICA AND THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

26. Over 40 per cent of the expenditures for the Department's technical cooperation activities are in support of development in African countries, in all sectors. Details are provided in annexes 1 and 3 of this report.

27. In resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the General Assembly requested bodies of the United Nations system to take appropriate measures in order to implement the commitments contained in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. The Agenda, as updated in a system-wide plan of action adopted by the Economic and Social Council in 1992, aims at broad goals and provides for specific activities which are central to the work programme established in 1992 for the DESD Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least-developed Countries.

28. The Secretary-General established a high-level panel to advise and assist him in fulfilling his responsibility for addressing tasks relating to African development, including the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the New Agenda. This panel, chaired by the Secretary-General himself, held its first meeting in December 1992. The Department has provided servicing to ensure that the United Nations as a whole is kept informed and involved in the implementation of the Agenda.

29. Affirming the need for the international community to provide strong assistance for African development efforts, the Government of Japan in collaboration with the United Nations and the Global Coalition for Africa (GCA) are planning to convene an international conference on African development in Tokyo in October 1993. It is hoped that the conference will bring together a number of heads of State in addition to some 300 high-level participants. As co-organizer of the conference, the Department is providing technical backstopping for the preparations.

30. Many similarities exist between the United Nations Programme of Action for the Least-developed Countries for the 1990s and the New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. The Department's responsibility for least-developed countries extends to working in close cooperation with UNCTAD to ensure full mobilization and coordination of United Nations bodies for purposes of the implementation of and follow-up on the Programme of Action. In this regard, an inter-agency consultation meeting was held at Geneva in June 1992. In October 1992, the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions agreed on guidelines on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least-developed Countries and submitted them to headquarters and field offices.

31. Through direct involvement in operational activities at the country-level in 1992, the Department assisted least-developed countries in numerous areas, including development planning and analysis, strengthening of the coordination machinery of their Governments, provision of advisory services for the preparation and implementation of projects, development of indigenous science and technology capacity, performance of population analysis, development of statistics and implementation of structural adjustment programmes. A major portion of the Department's technical cooperation activities are carried out in least-developed countries.

III. ENVIRONMENT

32. In addition to participation in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and in the preparations related to it, the Department was active in several notable initiatives during 1992.

33. Services were expanded to include environmental statistics and "green accounting", environmental policy and management guidelines, the use of remote sensing for environmental monitoring and environmental technology assessment systems. Management guidelines for the mining, energy, public administration and national planning sectors were prepared. Environmental impact assessments and assistance in the promotion of energy conservation and efficiency were stressed.

34. In 1992 an effort was embarked on to assist Governments in formulating environmental action plans and national equivalents of Agenda 21. This involved integrating environmental strategies with development plans and national capacity-building initiatives, with particular attention given to the conservation of natural habitats, land degradation, desertification and urban and industrial pollution. This effort interconnects with the UNDP initiative known as "Capacity 21".

35. Working in conjunction with UNDP, the Swedish Agency for International Technical and Economic Cooperation, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and several other bilateral agencies, the Department has been active in promoting strategies for increasing the efficiency of the power sector. The Stockholm Initiative on Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development played a key role in promoting the subject of energy conservation and efficiency in the UNCED process. It was also responsible for the establishment of the Solar Energy Group on Environment and Development for the purpose of preparing a technical report on new and renewable sources of energy.

36. The Department was a cooperating partner in several important gatherings in 1992, starting with the International Conference on Water and the Environment held in Dublin in January, the results of which provided an important input to UNCED and to the elaboration of the chapter on the protection and supply of freshwater resources in Agenda 21.

37. An international round table on environmentally sound coal technologies was organized in Berlin in conjunction with the Development Policy Forum of the German Foundation for International Development. This event focused on the technology needs and policy options of the clean utilization of coal.

38. An international conference on military conversion was held in Moscow to examine possible applications of aerospace technology in the field of environment and development.

39. In the wake of UNCED, the Department organized an interregional workshop in Beijing on the role of women in environmentally sound and sustainable development, in which a number of NGOs participated. The meeting made it possible to prepare a series of prototype sustainable-development programmes and projects. These initiatives are now being followed up.

40. The Department has submitted several project outlines for funding by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Projects approved in 1992 included one in China on coal-bed methane, one in Peru on assistance in energy conservation and one in Zimbabwe on photovoltaics for household and community use. A UNDP-funded project for monitoring oil pollution in Bulgarian territorial waters in the Black Sea was also approved in 1992.

41. Research conducted by the Department in the area of technical cooperation included quantitative analyses of environmental scenarios based on different policies and technological choices. Environmental aspects of energy, water, transport, population and consumer protection were investigated. The Department published a handbook on integrated economic and environmental accounting and promoted its use in workshops and services. It continued its methodological work on environmental statistics. In cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), it organized two expert group meetings on population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development in preparation for the International Conference on Population and Development to be held in 1994.

42. The Department completed a study on transnational corporations and climate change and disseminated criteria for sustainable management development. A report was prepared on industrial environmental protection and on requirements for the disclosure of information on environmental hazards. A status report was produced on the work being carried out by the United Nations system on hazardous technologies and safer alternatives. A survey of the environmental management priorities of 200 of the world's largest transnational corporations was completed.

43. Shortly after the Conference on Environment and Development, the Department initiated an internal strategy and action plan, drawing upon relevant aspects of Agenda 21 and identifying the following priorities for its work: (a) support for the formulation and implementation of sustainable development strategies and action plans; (b) the integration of environment and development in decision-

making related to development planning, sectoral programmes and the private sector; (c) the promotion of energy efficiency and conservation and of the use of new and renewable sources of energy; (d) the provision of help in the management of fragile ecosystems and in combating desertification and drought; (e) the protection of freshwater resources; (f) the management of hazardous wastes, particularly those produced by the mining industry; (g) the facilitation of global action by women towards sustainable development; (h) the further development of "green accounting" methodologies and other systems using environment-related statistics; (i) monitoring the environment through remote-sensing and satellite technology; (j) other tasks relating to the transfer of capacity-building in the use of environmentally sound technologies.

IV. EVALUATION

44. In 1992, in-depth evaluations were undertaken in respect of 29 projects. This compares with an average of 45 evaluations for each of the preceding two years. About 5 per cent of the projects executed by the Department are the subject of in-depth evaluations, most of which had budgets of $750,000 or more.

45. The Department's review of in-depth evaluations for 1992 has again revealed a number of long-standing problems, which, it seems fair to say, are also being encountered by other United Nations agencies. As a result of the cumulative lessons learned from such evaluations, there is now a sufficient body of knowledge to identify major factors which affect project performance and impact and areas in which remedial action should be taken. It is apparent that new approaches are needed to deal with some of these chronic problems and to make technical assistance more effective.

46. The remarks made in the paragraphs below focus on problems identified in project evaluations, project design and the criteria for their approval and training and capacity-building. Criteria for successful project implementation and the significance of the programme approach are highlighted. Comments are also offered on some notable projects.

47. As far as the evaluation exercises themselves were concerned, the average duration of two weeks for missions financed by the funding source was, in most instances, too short to permit intensive examination of such factors as the design of the project concerned, the institutions to which its execution was assigned, the methodologies used to implement it, the quality of the outputs obtained, its contribution to human-resources development and its programme linkages or to allow a discussion of alternative strategies and detailed recommendations. Moreover, an additional limitation was placed on the time which could actually be devoted to meaningful analysis and review since evaluators often needed to visit project sites and were required to write and present their draft report prior to departure.

48. Difficulties in evaluating project performance have also been due to weaknesses in project documents. The absence or inadequacy of verifiable baseline data for use in measuring progress make it difficult to record impact with any precision.

49. Results of evaluations pointed to shortcomings in project design as a major reason for the difficulties encountered in achieving the objectives of approved projects. Moreover, sometimes the objectives themselves were found to be unrealistic or overly ambitious.

50. Some weaknesses in project selection and design can be attributed to the limited resources devoted to preparatory work. It is difficult within a time span of a few weeks to perform all the background work required to produce a credible and well elaborated project document which provides a comprehensive picture of the socio-economic, political and physical environment in which the project concerned is expected to operate; assesses the resources the Government and other beneficiaries would be willing to commit; evaluates available managerial staff and institutional capabilities and is of assistance in obtaining inputs from all the parties which might interface with the project.

51. The implementation and sustainability of many projects are still impeded by the scarcity and too-rapid turnover of national staff and, in some cases, of national project directors. These constraints should be addressed when projects are identified and formulated and should have a bearing on the types of assistance sought and on the kind and scale of project operations chosen.

52. A review of evaluation reports suggests that high priority should be accorded to a re-examination of the approach taken to training in technical assistance programmes. Nowhere has the lack of detail and analysis been more striking than in the area of human resource development. Although capacity-building is supposedly one of the main objectives of technical assistance, project documents are characterized by a lack of detail regarding training, which is also dealt with perfunctorily in evaluation reports. Programmes should be based on a thorough knowledge of the skill levels of local staff, available options for training modalities and the suitability of various national and external training institutions.

53. On the positive side, evaluations show that projects are apt to have a powerful impact when enhanced by strong government commitment, solid management and staff support, good coordination and a realistic assessment of local capacity. It also appears that projects which have a narrow focus in that they deal with specific issues achieve their objectives more readily.

54. The evaluation reports also clearly show that a large number of projects are characterized by having many facets and significant linkages to groups and entities beyond their immediate environs. This lends further support to the adoption of a programme approach and suggests the need for multi-disciplinary teams for formulating projects and ensuring that they are integrated with the work of other public and private bodies.

55. Significant examples of projects in which training and evaluation were effectively dealt with include a mining project in India, which was noteworthy for the contribution it made to the extension of laboratory facilities and training and also for the quality of its evaluation report. The fact that the consultant was already familiar with local conditions, his technical knowledge and the time spent on the evaluation resulted in a report which contained very useful recommendations for follow-up action and some concrete proposals for improving the procedures for procuring equipment. In Nigeria, a project aimed

at providing short-term training in development economics and management was designed with the cooperation of leading universities overseas and tailor-made to meet local needs. A large audience was reached through the courses offered, which were highly rated by the participants. In Pakistan, a project provided for the establishment of a world-class materials-testing laboratory, which was essential for the implementation of major civil-engineering and construction works. This laboratory can also serve as a centre for technology transfer and training for other countries in Asia and the Pacific.

V. WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

56. In matters relating to Women in Development, the Department operates within the basic framework provided by the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the requests submitted by developing countries. The task force established within the Department in this field of action continued to operate in 1992 with increased substantive expertise at its disposal. It is markedly oriented towards activities in support of technical cooperation programmes with a grassroots base, which are a major means of achieving progress on behalf of women in developing countries.

57. The Department cooperated with INSTRAW in organizing an interregional workshop on women's role in environment and sustainable development, held in Beijing in September 1992. Twelve United Nations agencies, organizations and other bodies, including the United Nations Office in Vienna, participated. Over 80 prototype, replicable project proposals, addressing some of the major issues raised in Agenda 21, were developed. The workshop, which was attended by 120 participants, was perceived not only as an operationally oriented activity but also as a main link between UNCED and the fourth World Conference on Women planned for 1995.

58. The Department also cooperated with INSTRAW and ESCAP in organizing a regional workshop on training modules on women, water supply and sanitation - a package aimed at senior government officials, development planners and provincial authorities in charge of water supply and sanitation projects, engineers in charge of designing and implementing projects and trainers and managers of national training institutes. This workshop, which followed a similar one held in the Gambia in 1991, took place in Thailand in September 1992.

59. Innovative work was performed in connection with the enhancement of the role of women in small-scale and artisanal mining. Workers in this informal sector are in a marginal and vulnerable position in that they must rely on a seasonal source of income. The Department seeks to assist women through training, transfer of technology, and development of entrepreneurship. Four prototype projects relating to women in mining were occasionally introduced for donor financing in 1992. The Department has been cooperating with UNIFEM and INSTRAW in this regard and will help to organize an interregional seminar to be held in 1993 on guidelines for the development of small and medium-scale mining, at which issues relating to women will be addressed at length.

60. In the field of statistics, priority concerns were the improvement of data on the participation of women in the informal sector and the provision of

assistance in developing national databases on women, population and development through a technical adviser financed by Norway. With regard to the informal sector, a project executed in cooperation with INSTRAW, UNDP and ECA was successfully completed. Following the development and promotion of the United Nations Women's Indicators and Statistics Database (WISTAT) and the publication of World's Women, 1970-1990: Trends and Statistics, the Department, in cooperation with the Women-in-Development Subgroup of the Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP) and several bilateral agencies, is responding to requests concerning the development of national databases and reports for submission to the conference on women to be held in 1995.

61. In the field of population, a new microcomputer-based model for women in urban formal and informal sectors demonstrates the potential impact of policies which Governments could adopt with a view to establishing a more equitable partnership with women on issues relating to development. A paper on strategies to raise awareness among policy-makers, which had proved to be of use in technical cooperation activities, was presented at an expert group meeting on population and women held preparatory to the International Conference on Population and Development to be held in 1994.

62. As regards the role of women in government and decision-making, the Department distributed the results of research and workshops on the development of policy for increasing the participation of women in public management. This information was provided to civil-service commissions, public-administration-and-management institutes and public enterprises. The Department also helped Governments to design and implement programmes in this field of activity.

VI. TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

63. Support by the Department for TCDC activities involves: stimulating institutional networking arrangements; disseminating information on available capabilities; and calling on developing countries to provide project components.

64. The promotion of TCDC is a priority for the Department. Workshops, seminars and training programmes financed out of the regular-programme budget or from other sources facilitate the exchange of experience and expertise among developing countries.

65. As for the effort to promote reliance on developing countries' capacities, 1992 saw a steady increase in the use of experts and consultants from such countries and of their institutions for purposes of training arrangements, subcontracts and equipments. Further details in this regard may be found in annex II to this report.

66. In 1992 the Department worked with the UNDP Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries in providing support from the regular programme to the Government of Ecuador and 21 other countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Africa for the purpose of holding a UNDP intercountry exercise to identify possible TCDC arrangements in connection with mining and its environmental impact. In preparation for this exercise, which was held at Quito, the Department provided staff resources, requested project staff in the participating countries to assist in matching the capacities and

needs of the countries to which they were assigned with those of Ecuador and helped to formulate project requests for negotiation. Missions were conducted to several countries in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Asia. During the programming exercise itself, the Department and the UNDP Special Unit worked with the host Government and assisted participants during the negotiations. The exercise resulted in 177 project agreements. The Department will cover some of the costs incurred during the implementation of several of the projects agreed upon and will also provide technical advice to participating countries at their request.

67. During the year, the Department participated in a number of meetings relating to TCDC, including a meeting held in Chitose City, Japan, in May, which had among its main items South-South cooperation in the Asia and Pacific region. That meeting was organized by UNCTAD, UNU, Hokkaido Prefecture and Chitose City. In July it made a statement in the Economic and Social Council describing its TCDC activities. It also participated in the meeting of TCDC focal points for UNDP held in New York, which focused on proposed guidelines for TCDC and on a draft questionnaire on relevant activities, and in the meetings of focal points of the Arab States (Damascus, Syria); and the Latin America and Caribbean region (Caracas, Venezuela), the UNDP Workshop on Foreign Aid Coordination and the TCDC consultations for Africa. Funds were also made available for follow-up training activities.

68. A notable endeavour was the convening, jointly with the UNDP Special Unit for TCDC, of two interregional meetings on guidelines for integrated macroeconomic planning and management for sustainable development in island developing countries. A preparatory session was held in April in Jamaica, and a workshop in June in Fiji, leading to the publication of a handbook for decision-makers and planning staff. Additional conference and training follow-up is planned.

VII. REGULAR PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION

69. The regular programme responds to priority development needs through catalytic activities. Guided on priorities by the Governing Council, the regular programme finances short-term advisory services, training and innovative field projects to meet special needs and attract additional support.

70. Human resources development and institution-building were at the core of the activities carried out in 1992. Complementarity with other development activities was stressed as was assistance in connection with multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral approaches to development. Flexibility and rapidity in responding to requests characterized the way in which the programme was managed.

71. The provision of advisory services to a wide range of countries in all areas of work in which the Department specializes remained a salient feature of the programme. In addition, 22 interregional seminars and workshops, with inputs from about as many host countries, provided some 390 participants from developing countries with training and an opportunity for professional interaction. Least-developed countries were given priority in respect of the provision of advisory services and seminars.

72. At the request of the new Department of Humanitarian Affairs, DESD also participated in an interagency mission to Somalia to help to lay the foundation for the eventual rehabilitation of that country's human-resource and management capacity.

73. The special needs of Africa were explored in an interregional symposium, in which problems were viewed in the light of the Asian experience on development policy and ways to draw lessons from that experience were examined. The symposium, which was co-funded by the African Development Bank and Japan, will be followed in 1993 by a workshop on long-term perspective planning in Africa.

74. Environment-related activities included workshops on issues relating to water and environment; mining and environment; remote sensing and environment and the role of women in environmentally sound, sustainable development. Environmental considerations were incorporated in other workshops when appropriate. These training activities were supplemented by advisory missions.

75. In addition to the interregional workshop mentioned above, a workshop was organized in Thailand, following upon one held in the Gambia in 1991, to test training modules on women, water supply and sanitation. Regarding women and small and medium-scale mining, the Department has been cooperating with UNIFEM and INSTRAW and will help organize a seminar on the subject in 1993.

76. The regular programme also supported a seminar in the Seychelles on the special economic planning and management needs of island developing countries.

77. Privatization and related needs were addressed through various activities, including a mission to Albania to advise on the economic and social changes needed to shift to a market economy. In a project on the methods and practices employed in the privatization of State-owned enterprises in Bangladesh and Kenya, diagnostic surveys were carried out and national workshops organized on the financing of privatization and on post-privatization regulations. An interregional seminar in China dealt with the linkages of micro-economic reforms and macroeconomic adjustment in transitional centrally planned economies.

78. Other missions, based on cross-sectoral-needs assessments, identified programme components and complemented services financed by UNDP under TSS-1. A multisectoral-needs-assessment mission to Nigeria, in relation to the fifth UNDP country programme, identified and ranked problems in all the geographical areas of the country and suggested programmes for dealing with them.

79. Significantly, the regular programme was used to enhance the capacity for national execution and to help with the introduction of the programme approach called for in General Assembly resolution 44/211 and in various decisions of the UNDP Governing Council. A mission to Malawi helped to develop a practical application of the programme approach and to prepare a report on the country programme formulation process. The Department also organized another training workshop in its series on aspects of implementing technical cooperation projects.

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UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

Information on the technical cooperation programme of the Department of Economic and Social Development

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

SUMMARY

The present addendum to the report on United Nations technical cooperation activities provides detailed information on the activities of the Department of Economic and Social Development of the United Nations Secretariat and includes a description of its technical cooperation work in development issues and policies; natural resources and energy; public administration and finance; statistics; population; and transnational corporations. The report also includes information on DESD programme support services and work in conjunction with the World Food Programme.

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INTRODUCTION

1. In 1992, the Department of Economic and Social Development (DESD) of the United Nations Secretariat had 918 technical cooperation projects under execution, with a total delivery of approximately $140.7 million against current year budgets of $185 million. The present addendum to document DP/1993/39 contains information on the substantive and managerial aspects of the work of DESD during 1992. Data on project delivery are contained in DP/1993/39/Add.3. (All delivery figures in this report are provisional.)

I. SUBSTANTIVE AREAS

A. Development issues and policies

2. In 1992, DESD provided advice and assistance to developing countries in national economic and social development planning (including long-term perspective planning, sectoral planning and regional planning); public investment programming and monitoring; foreign debt issues; activities related to structural adjustment and recovery programmes; information systems for planning and management; coordination of external technical and financial assistance; and such interdisciplinary areas as integrated rural development, popular participation and grass-roots development, women's integration in development, social aspects of structural adjustment, critical poverty and incorporation of environmental concerns into development planning.

3. During the year, new projects were approved or execution of projects begun (with DESD as executing or cooperating agency) in Aruba, (funded by the Government of the Netherlands), Bangladesh, Central America (regional), Chad, Honduras, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mozambique, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone (in cooperation with the International Monetary Fund (IMF)), Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the United Arab Emirates and the United Republic of Tanzania. In addition, advisory services were provided under the new modality of technical support services (TSS-1) to Cameroon, Ethiopia, Gabon, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, South Pacific (regional) and Uganda.

4. As part of its continuing series of interregional workshops on key, topical aspects of development planning, DESD organized and conducted two such workshops in 1992. One was held at Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (15 to 19 June), within the context of the Japan/UNDESD initiative for enhancing the human, institutional, technological and managerial capacities of developing countries (known as the "Africa Initiative Project" and jointly funded by the Government of Japan and the United Nations). The Abidjan workshop, which received additional support from the African Development Bank (AfDB), dealt with "Accelerated Development in Africa: Perspectives from the Asian Experience". The other workshop, held at Suva, Fiji (29 June to 3 July), funded by the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) and the United Nations regular programme of Technical Cooperation, covered "Macroeconomic Planning and Management in Small Island Developing Countries".

5. In the field of planning, DESD provides assistance in a broad range of substantive areas pertinent to economies in the process of transformation. For example, in the Comoros, "Strengthening Capacity for Planning and Economic Management", deals with such aspects of structural adjustment as rationalizing the public investment process, reforming para-statal management and reforming the civil service. This project is complementary to World Bank assistance.

6. In the area of Social Dimensions of Adjustment (SDA), DESD has assisted in developing methodologies and procedures for monitoring and planning in projects in several African countries. An interregional workshop was held to promote international exchange of experience in this area.

7. Under a regional project on SDA, the World Bank, AfDB, UNDP and DESD are collaborating to assist several African countries to incorporate social considerations in macroeconomic and sectoral policy-making processes. In this context, DESD is the cooperating agency for a government-executed, UNDP-financed project in the United Republic of Tanzania aimed at assessing the social impact of economic policy and structural reform programmes and at strengthening institutional capacity to design, monitor and implement social policy action programmes and to manage social service delivery systems. This project is one of a group of projects assisting the Government in development planning. The others involve investment programming, information systems for economic planning and management and regional (subnational) planning.

8. During 1992, DESD executed 147 projects in the field of development planning, with a total delivery of $32.1 million.

B. Energy and natural resources

1. Energy

9. A total of 50 advisory missions provided advice on energy policy, resource evaluation and exploration; project design and feasibility studies in the areas of petroleum, coal, natural gas and electric power; energy planning; energy conservation; geothermal, solar, wind and multi-source renewable energy packages; information systems; and microcomputer-based energy analysis.

10. In 1992 the Fifteenth World Energy Congress and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) focused on improving the environment and on the importance of energy efficiency and fuel substitution in meeting that goal. Efficiency measures incorporated in recent DESD projects deal mainly with the generation and transmission of electricity and the end-use of fuels and electricity in industry, transport, commerce and households. Other projects have focused on the transfer of affordable solar energy technology in rural areas to replace kerosene and traditional fuels and to promote rural development. At the same time, recent advances have been made in the handling of conventional fuels; in particular, several new projects are helping developing countries to obtain new clean coal technologies.

11. Increasingly, the countries of eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States are requesting United Nations technical cooperation in the field of energy. DESD is assisting in the restructuring of energy sector

institutions, energy/environmental impact assessment and the provision of energy efficiency advisory services.

12. During the 1980-1987 period, the United Nations implemented a programme to identify the potential for small-scale hydropower in developing countries. The programme surveyed sites in 41 developing countries, concentrating on small-scale power schemes in the range of 500 kilowatts to 5 megawatts. In 1992, on the basis of this survey, DESD launched a Programme on Enhancement of Small-Scale Hydropower Resources in Developing Countries which takes into account environmental and socio-economic considerations. Current activities are reviewing and updating the existing studies and selecting sites for further investigation during the second phase.

13. To guide the Government of Viet Nam and potential donors and investors and to provide an economic and technical benchmark for measuring progress in the energy sector, DESD and the World Bank jointly undertook a complete review of energy sector investments and policies in Viet Nam. The report covered interactions between the energy sector and the economy, the feasibility of building a refinery and developments in the coal sector. It also analysed the possibility of connecting the northern and southern electricity grids and assessed the condition and investment requirements of existing hydro- and thermal-power plants.

14. The Government of China has embarked on an ambitious programme to expand and improve coal utilization, supported by a large projected government investment. The Government has assigned high priority to the implementation of the following DESD-formulated programme elements: control of environmental pollution from coal combustion through a "city demonstration project" in four cities; transfer and development of methods to predict, mitigate and eliminate karst water inflows into coal beds under development; and access to and training in production mining techniques in thick coal seams through seminars, visits to productive mines and technical workshops with manufacturers of thick seam equipment.

15. In India, a new project aims to develop the capabilities of the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute in opencast mine fire control, in-seam seismic exploration and ground control, so that it will be able to provide services in these areas to the Indian coal sector for improved health, safety, productivity and environmental conditions.

16. A recently completed project has concluded that geothermal energy could satisfy a substantial part of the electricity demand in the islands of the eastern Caribbean. It also evaluated the results of exploratory work in Dominica, Grenada and Saint Lucia with a view to presenting an integrated assessment of geothermal potential in the region. Other projects, in China, Ethiopia and Uganda, are maximizing the utilization of geothermal energy.

17. A recently completed energy conservation project in India was given an excellent rating. The energy savings to date, in just 40 audited establishments, is valued at $3.5 million, which far exceeds the $1.24 million provided by UNDP for the project. The long-term potential for commercial energy savings of 20 to 30 per cent forecast at the project outset now seems feasible.

DESD is assisting in the formulation of an energy conservation programme for the next phase of cooperation.

18. In Pakistan, DESD, in cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) has launched project activities to enhance the efficiency of energy use in industry and buildings. Such projects have the multiple benefits of reducing energy shortages, cutting fuel costs and improving the national balance of payments.

19. In the area of oil and gas development, DESD is assisting the Oil and Natural Gas Commission of India to develop pilot schemes for enhanced oil recovery based on the results of a recently completed project.

20. In 1992 the Global Environment Facility (GEF) approved three projects for DESD execution: coal bed methane development in China ($10 million), photovoltaic energy for household and community use in Zimbabwe ($7 million) and technical assistance to centre for energy conservation in Peru ($0.9 million). These projects aim to reduce carbone dioxide emissions through promotion of new and renewable sources of energy and energy conservation.

21. The following meetings dealing with energy issues were organized by DESD: Study Tour on Small-scale Hydropower (China, 14-27 June) and Reinjection of Geothermal Fluids (Costa Rica, 10-12 November).

22. Sectoral energy studies undertaken in 1992 by DESD with TSS-1 funding included: "Investment Promotion in the Energy sector" (Bulgaria), "Energy Planning and Policy" (China), "Study on Sectoral Energy Consumption; Assessment of Energy Utilization Efficiency" (Islamic Republic of Iran), "Study for Power Supply to Lima (Peru), Energy Consumption Study" (Romania), "North-East Asia Subregion - Energy Sector Analysis", "Pacific Subregion - Regional Petroleum Standards for the Pacific" and "South-Asia Subregion - Alternative Energy Systems".

23. During 1992, DESD executed 89 projects in the energy field with a total delivery of $10.5 million.

2. Water

24. During the year, projects were executed and advisory missions undertaken in water resources planning, engineering, legislation, rural water supply (including water-well drilling), maintenance and community participation and computer applications to surface and groundwater development and management.

25. Under the United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation, DESD organized three seminars and workshops: Interregional Conference on Water and the Environment (Dublin, Ireland, 26 to 31 January), Workshop on Testing of Training Modules on Women, Water Supply and Sanitation (Bangkok, Thailand, 21 to 25 September) and the Interregional Workshop on the Role of Women in Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development (Beijing, China, 9 to 15 September).

26. Innovative large-scale projects were developed in Guinea-Bissau and the Central African Republic, financed by the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and UNDP, which focus on socio-economic aspects of water supply and sanitation in rural areas, with special emphasis on community participation and on the role of women.

27. In a project in southern Africa, the programme goal of DESD is the integrated and environmentally sound management of the area's water resources to allow sustainable development. The objective is the promotion of compatible national procedures for the planning and management of water resources development and the development of a mechanism for the exchange of information among the 11 countries involved.

28. A number of projects had a strong environmental component. In China, a large-scale project is aimed at building national capacity to undertake macroeconomic planning in the water supply sector. It focuses on developing mathematical computer models in hydrology, water supply and management and overall resource planning using multi-objective goal analysis techniques. Geared towards water quality and protection, this project is attempting to optimize the allocation of scarce water resources among agricultural, urban and industrial uses, in response to the recommendations of Agenda 21 (UNCED). In Pakistan, DESD has supported the establishment of the Waterlogging and Salinity Research Institute in Lahore, which coordinates all research in Pakistan on waterlogging and salinity and disseminates information both nationally and internationally on these subjects. Under a regional project for the Lake Chad Basin (involving Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria), DESD is attempting to restore water levels of the lake (lowered by the effects of drought), on which populations of the four countries depend for their agricultural needs. To this end, a mathematical model has been developed to test different water management strategies and their effects on lake water levels.

29. During 1992, DESD executed 95 projects in the field of water resources development, with a total delivery of $15.4 million.

3. Mineral resources

30. In 1992 DESD carried out projects in 40 countries in all phases of mineral development - mineral prospecting, geological mapping, airborne geophysical surveys, establishment of a geological computerized database using geographic information systems (GIS), mineral policy and investment promotion advice, a mineral economic survey, mine design and engineering, environment protection and management and geophysics application in other sectors. Many projects included institution and human resources development, with Africa receiving 66 per cent of the assistance. Emphasis was given to least developed and land-locked countries in Africa, notably in the Sahel region, where a new source of exports is urgently needed to provide hard currency.

31. A mix of ad hoc technical and policy advisory services provided to developing countries included institution-building; direct support; training and sharing of experience through seminars and workshops; and research, analysis and information dissemination. Expertise was also provided to the prediction and monitoring of geological hazards, which apply technology similar to that used in

mineral exploration. Special attention was given to strengthening linkages between government mineral policies, rural community needs and industrial corporate strategy in order to integrate the mineral sector into the development process.

32. Substantive and organizational support were provided to the first TCDC programming exercise in mining and related environmental matters, in Ecuador from 9 to 13 March.

33. Some 20 short-term advisory services were provided in such areas as mineral sector review, in cooperation with the World Bank; impact assessment of geological, geographic and environmental factors on life and poverty; the role of geological surveys in mitigating risks; evaluation of geological hazards; formulation of legislative regulation in the field of mining and geology; diamond exploration methodology and promotion; on-site evaluation; development of strategies for long-term mitigation of volcanic hazards; and small-scale mining assessment and policy proposals.

34. An Interregional Seminar on Foreign Investment and Joint Ventures in the Mining Sector was held in China from 7 to 11 December.

35. Most projects had a mining investment promotion component, including the formulation of user-friendly computerized geo-scientific databases. With a view to helping investors identify mineral targets, intensive fieldwork was carried out by national teams under the technical supervision of international experts. The establishment of user-friendly computerized geo-scientific databases was part of the effort to improve the investment framework. Legal and investment promotion services were requested and were instrumental in the drafting of new legislation.

36. Such projects were implemented in Angola, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Chad, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Jamaica, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Pakistan, the Philippines, Togo, Uganda and Yemen. In Bolivia, the project promoted the use of such non-traditional mining methods as low-grade, high-tonnage open-pit mining and attracted investment to the country. This has shifted mining policy in the country away from the traditional focus on one resource. In the Philippines and Yemen, projects helped the Governments step up their mining investment promotion efforts. In Ghana a project assisted in the organization of the Mineral Commission, which is responsible for the governance and development of the mineral sector. The Minerals Commission upgraded the extraction and marketing of national gold and diamond resources, attracted new investments valued at several million dollars from leading mining companies world wide and is now promoting small-scale mining.

37. The importance of small-scale mining activities has gained recognition, in particular as a means of providing new employment opportunities in rural areas. In Ethiopia, a project will train national personnel to provide advisory services to mines and prepare models for demonstration at selected sites. In Mali riverbeds were dredged for mining cooperatives; in Burkina Faso, auriferous alluvials were processed; and in the Sahel region and in Mozambique coal degasification techniques were taught.

38. In Pakistan, projects evaluated reserves and technology for small-scale mining and processing of sulphur in Baluchistan and carried out exploration, mining evaluation, processing and marketing of gemstones in Kashmir. Assistance was provided to alluvial gemstone mining at Orissa in India. In Laos, alluvial gold targets were evaluated and testing of sluice recovery of gold from the Mekong River is about to begin. In Jamaica, a mobile mining task force was formed and equipped and has successfully opened seven marble quarry sites. Promising mineral prospects have been identified in the Sahel region as well as in Mozambique and Uganda.

39. The protection of the environment was a major concern in formulating and implementing new projects. For example, in Guinea-Bissau a project was designed to ensure the "environmental-friendly" development of a phosphate deposit and the evaluation of additional mineral potential. Environmental baseline studies have been carried out in the course of undertaking feasibility studies of mineral deposits in Nepal, Pakistan and Thailand.

40. During 1992, DESD executed 79 projects in the field of minerals, with a total delivery of $13.1 million.

4. Infrastructure: cartography, remote sensing and public works

41. Assistance was provided in applying remote-sensing techniques to mapping and map updating in a number of developing countries. Advisory services to remote-sensing training programmes focused on the use of satellite remote-sensing data from new sensors, assessing the use of this data and identifying possibilities for map production and updating of old maps.

42. In October, DESD organized, with the cooperation of the Beijing Commission for Science and Technology, a seminar on Urban Information Systems and their application to developing countries (Beijing, 13 to 21 October). The purpose of the seminar was to provide a forum for discussion and dissemination of current and improved techniques for formulation of Urban Information Systems to benefit developing countries.

43. DESD provided secretariat services and technical background papers to the Sixth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (New York, 25 August to 3 September) and the Sixteenth Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

44. In collaboration with the Earth Observation Satellite Company and the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, DESD organized a two-week seminar (Washington, D.C., 2 to 14 August) on Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, to benefit developing countries.

45. In Trinidad and Tobago, surveys of deep-sea areas were completed. The country is now able to do the survey work required for effective management and protection of its marine environment, particularly with regard to offshore hazards and the definition of sea lanes to cope with the heavy traffic of crude oil carriers in the area.

46. In Turkey, technical cooperation was provided to the Municipality of Ankara to strengthen its institutional capabilities to implement the initial stages of a comprehensive urban transportation master plan, including the implementation of the rapid transit system (heavy and light rail transit).

47. In Malawi, in the context of a government-established strategy of self-help schemes to provide social and physical infrastructure to the rural population, a major effort combining technical cooperation and capital investment for the construction of village access roads and bridges has been completed.

48. In Viet Nam a comprehensive national transportation sector review initiated in 1990 has been completed. It provides, for the first time, the data and analytical basis for understanding the current status of the transport infrastructure, its related industries and operations and for identifying the major capital investment and technical cooperation needs.

49. In Uganda, satellite imagery was taken of the entire territory of the country. Comparison of this imagery with existing 30-year-old maps revealed a significant change, thus facilitating the preparation of revised and updated maps.

50. In Swaziland, assistance is being provided for the improvement of road maintenance, planning and operations.

51. In India, a major large-scale project continues to upgrade the research and development facilities of the Indian Railways Research Design and Standards Organization in Lucknow. It is developing passenger coaches and wagons with higher capacity and improved reliability. Activities include design, production of prototypes, testing of the rolling stock and systems and training of Indian engineers in manufacturing, testing and maintenance techniques.

52. Fellowships and grants were awarded to candidates for studies in transport, road maintenance and management, data processing, photogrammetry, cartography/map compilation, cadastral and land information systems, GIS, integrated digital mapping, geodetic science, map reproduction and printing.

53. In the fields of cartography, remote sensing and public works, 43 projects were executed during 1992, with a total delivery of $8.3 million.

C. Public administration and finance

54. In 1992 increased technical cooperation was provided to improve public-sector management systems with special emphasis on assisting Governments to strengthen their policy formulation processes and human resources development.

55. DESD continued to assist the Governments of Bhutan, Mali Mauritius and Nepal in human resources development and institutional capacity. Projects on administrative reform are under way in Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Projects involving the development and modernization of information management systems were executed in Morocco, Papua New Guinea and the United Arab Emirates. Due to the increased importance of

information technology tools in elections and in public administration, a number of information technology needs assessment missions were undertaken.

56. The establishment and strengthening of management development institutions remained a principal focus of DESD cooperation. Assistance continued to be provided to management institutes in Bangladesh, Colombia, the Gambia, India, Lesotho, Nepal, Panama, Paraguay and government ministerial departments in Mozambique, Thailand and the United Republic of Tanzania.

57. In the area of electoral administration, a number of fact-finding missions to assess the capacity of Governments to organize elections led to the formulation and execution of technical cooperation programmes aimed at strengthening the capacity of national electoral commissions, organizing international observers missions and providing assistance in the organization and conduct of national elections. A large-scale project was executed in Angola to that effect. Other technical cooperation missions were fielded to Albania, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda and Uganda.

58. In 1992, a series of interregional seminars on decentralization, democratization and development were held in Tunisia (February 1992), the Gambia (June 1992) and Korea (October 1992). Preparatory technical committee meetings for the 1993 World Conference on Metropolitan Government, to be held in Tokyo, were organized in Honolulu, Hawaii (22 to 24 June and 23 to 25 November).

59. Sectoral studies aimed at helping countries create conditions for better government and administration were undertaken under the new facility for technical services at the programme level (TSS-1). These included a study to define the Government's needs in public management reform in Bangladesh; development administration and efficiency in Bhutan; reassessment of the public administration system in support of structural adjustment in India; improved policy processes and decentralization in the Gambia, Jordan and Malawi; civil service reform and management performance improvement in Lesotho and Uganda; and strengthening governance and state reform in several Latin American countries.

60. The main objective of the United Nations Programme in Public Finance is to respond to changing needs of developing countries in strengthening their institutional capacities with a view to improving revenue administration, rationalizing public expenditures and enhancing financial management and accountability.

61. Against a background of rising external debt, increased government deficits, shrinking resources available for public expenditure and declining economic growth, DESD has sought to strengthen developing country capacities in resource mobilization and budgetary processes and to formulate and evaluvate the role of public-sector management in economic development.

62. Technical cooperation projects carried out in fiscal reform and tax administration in Bangladesh, Nepal, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania have contributed significantly to strengthening national capabilities in tax administration and resulted in mobilizing much-needed additional tax and customs revenues for economic development.

63. Other projects focused on public expenditure rationalization, legislative and administrative aspects of fund control and accountability and auditing of the efficiency and effectiveness of operations. This includes projects in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, the Netherlands Antilles, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen.

64. Activities were carried out in the field of accounting in Bangladesh and Ethiopia. As a means of strengthening economic and financial management, modern computerized information systems were introduced in several countries, including Algeria, the Netherlands Antilles and Papua New Guinea. In Papua New Guinea a computerized government accounting system set up at 19 provincial and 17 central government locations improved financial legislation, financial procedures and revenue management. Under the project, new regulations were drafted and large numbers of government staff were trained in new systems, procedures and regulations. Currently, the project is consolidating past gains in accounting and financial management and improving public expenditure control and the management of liquid government resources. The project in the Netherlands Antilles aims to equip the Government with a modern computerized accounting system and to train staff in its operation.

65. DESD conducted a Working Group on Aid Accountability at Vienna, Austria, in May 1992 and a Symposium on Savings and Credit in Africa at Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in April 1992 in the field of resources mobilization.

66. In 1992, DESD executed 131 projects in the fields of public administration and finance with a total delivery of $6 million.

D. Statistics

67. In 1992, emphasis continued on assisting developing countries to strengthen and extend national services and capabilities for collecting, processing, disseminating and using a broad range of development-related statistics. A wide range of projects helped build national statistical systems, conduct population and housing censuses, promote statistical data processing and improve both economic and social statistics. Technical support continued to be given to ensure that developing countries have full access to appropriate new techniques for processing and disseminating statistics; to assist those developing countries that are the least advanced in statistics; to contribute to work carried out under the umbrella of the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP); and to improve the situation of women.

68. Training remained an essential component in technical cooperation activities, covering fellowships, on-the-job training, study tours, workshops and seminars and local training provided by field staff, technical advisers and regular staff of DESD. Most country projects provided support for an explicit training component. In addition, the following workshops were organized: Interregional Workshop on Development of Statistics on Women's Activities in the Informal Sector, in collaboration with the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and the Government of the Republic of Korea (Seoul, Korea, 25 to 29 May); Interregional Seminar on the Revision of the System of National Accounts, organized in collaboration with the Instituto nacional de estatistica geográfica e información (INEGI) Statistics

Mexico (Aguascalientes, Mexico, 1 to 10 October); Seminar on the Use of CD-ROM Technology, in collaboration with the Central Statistical Office of Hungary (Budapest, Hungary, 29 September to 4 October); and International Seminar on the 1990 Population Census of China, organized in collaboration with the Government of China (Beijing, China, 16 to 23 October).

69. DESD has continued funding an interregional project for training of junior statisticians and programmers. The project promotes TCDC, arranging sending nationals from countries with less developed statistics to other developing countries that have the capability of providing on-the-job training in desired fields. Emphasis is placed on the least developed countries and the development of women statisticians and programmers.

70. Five countries - Burkina Faso, the Cayman Islands, Guinea, Guyana and the Seychelles - joined NHSCP in 1992. By the end of 1992, NHSCP had promoted integrated household survey programmes in 50 countries, 26 of which are in Africa, 4 in West Asia, 7 in the Asia and Pacific region, 12 in Latin America and the Caribbean and one in Europe. External donors, mainly UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), contributed about $8 million towards the costs of surveys in NHSCP-participating countries in 1991 and 1992. From the inception of NHSCP in October 1979 until December 1992, a total of about $50 million has been contributed from external sources, through multilateral and bilateral arrangements, to survey programmes in the 50 participating countries. At the request of UNDP, a review of NHSCP was undertaken in 1992. Accomplishments included a large number of national surveys, the promotion of integrated household surveys, the delivery of technical support services and the coordination between users and producers of household survey data. The review has recommended that the functions now carried out by the Statistical Division of the United Nations Secretariat, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies under NHSCP be continued.

71. In 1992 there were two major objectives in the field of gender statistics: the improvement of statistics on women's participation in the informal sector, and assistance to countries in the development of national databases on women, population and development. Since 1990, funds have been provided to DESD by the Government of Norway to finance a technical adviser in statistics on women in development, who has had a key role in assisting developing countries to improve statistics on women. In the informal sector, a major cooperative project with INSTRAW, UNDP and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) was completed. In the area of national databases and statistical reports, technical missions assisted in project development, substantive backstopping and training in Bulgaria, Ghana, Kenya, Pakistan and Turkey, and a subregional workshop was held in the South Pacific sponsored by INSTRAW with the support of the Government of New Zealand. Following the successful development and promotion of the United Nations Women's Indicators and Statistics Database (Wistat) and the publication of "The World's Women, 1970-1990: Trends and Statistics", DESD, in cooperation with the Women in Development Subgroup of the Joint Consultative Group on Policy and interested bilateral agencies, is responding to requests from countries for assistance in developing national databases and reports for the Fourth World Conference on Women, 1995.

72. The Computer Software and Support for Population Activities project entered a new cycle in 1992 with funding from UNFPA. The project promotes productive use of computer technology by developing and delivering population software to country programmes, Governments and academic institutions; organizes, collaborates and participates in software training workshops; and provides computerized technical support to UNFPA and other units of the United Nations system. PopMap, the software created by the project in 1991, has proven to be an effective analytical and presentation tool in multidisciplinary areas. A total of 1,400 population software packages were delivered in 1992, of which an estimated 44 per cent was for the project software PC-Edit, Xtable and PopMap.

73. During 1992, DESD executed 150 country projects and 19 intercountry projects in all fields of statistics and statistical data processing, including informatics, with a total expenditure of $16.7 million. A total of 180 project-related or direct technical advisory missions to 79 countries were undertaken.

E. Population

74. In 1992 DESD provided technical cooperation to population projects in 67 developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America in demographic training, analysis and research, population policy and population and development.

75. Approximately 43 projects were in population training and research, of which 37 per cent were in Africa, 21 per cent in Asia, 19 per cent in Latin America, 12 per cent in West Asia, 4 per cent in Europe and the remaining 7 per cent interregional.

76. Emphasis on technical cooperation in Africa in general and sub-Saharan Africa in particular continued. Short-term, intensive training of specialized government personnel in population issues and approaches, such as the Population Policy Workshop held in October under the auspices of the University Training/Research Project in Swaziland, became an even more prominent feature of work in this area, as was the production of a significant number of policy-oriented research products by increasingly self-reliant institutions.

77. University-based population research and teaching units became more involved in research on population and environment in the context of sustainable development. For instance, at the unit for Training in Demography at the University of Dar-es-Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, demographers are being trained to integrate population in all aspects of the Government's sectoral development planning.

78. In China, policy-oriented research was carried out on, inter alia, measures to eliminate critical poverty; strategies for the implementation of an appropriate population policy for ethnic minority groups; realistic quality-of-life indexes; and fertility and women's income. The products of 10 such research endeavours completed in 1992 have been accepted as one basis for strategy and target-setting in China's Ninth Five-Year Development Plan.

79. Recognizing the critical importance of skilled human resources, one of the first multilaterally funded population projects requested by the Government of Mongolia, in the area of teaching and research in population at the Mongolian

National University, became operational in 1992. China opened its doors to the first group of Mongolians to be trained as teachers via the TCDC modality. A similar project at the University of Tirana in Albania has already built enough research capacity and infrastructure to plan a regional conference on one of the most pressing problems of Eastern Europe in 1993.

80. The population research and teaching unit of the University of Honduras continued to train, at the graduate level, selected middle- and senior-level government officials from Honduras and other Central American countries in population-development planning and policy.

81. Finally, many research and teaching projects have taken on the need for research on the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). Aspects investigated include the impact of AIDS on family and community stability and resources and the response to the threat of AIDS.

82. In the area of population, 34 projects were implemented in 33 countries, with a major emphasis on the evaluation and analysis of data from the 1990 round of population censuses and demographic surveys.

83. To prepare for analyses of these censuses, DESD helped Governments strengthen demographic analysis units and train personnel through national, regional, interregional and other international technical cooperation programmes. A pressing demand continued for computer hardware and software for training in demographic analysis, integration of population into development and population policy formulation.

84. Also in connection with the 1990 round of population censuses, DESD initiated several activities to enhance government capacity for demographic analysis. In cooperation with the International Statistical Programs Centre of the United States Bureau of the Census, a four-month training programme in demographic data analysis, dissemination and utilization was organized for 18 trainees, 16 of whom came from DESD-executed country population projects. In cooperation with ECA, DESD organized a workshop in Ghana in August to train African demographers and planners in the use of microcomputers for analysis of census data. In addition, a workshop was organized in Burkina Faso in February 1992 for participants from nine African francophone countries on the use of REDATAM and PopMap. This represented an innovative transfer of technology both from the University of Montreal and from Latin America (REDATAM was developed by the Latin American Demographic Centre) to Africa. The User's Manual of REDATAM is now being translated into French and will be distributed to francophone countries.

85. The team approach to demographic analysis, employing staff demographers, local consultants and a national or international expert as technical coordinators, continued to be adopted in a number of countries and is being encouraged in others. In addition, with the need for analysis of census data well established by previous population census rounds, DESD is helping developing countries to incorporate programmes of data analysis and dissemination into the 1990 population census design.

86. Managerial and substantive backstopping was provided in 30 countries in the fields of population policy and population and development. Project activities

included strengthening institutional arrangements (population units, national population commissions); demographic research and studies; population policy formulation; integration of population variables in development planning; and training of national staff in the field of population policy and development, including use of demo-economic models and related microcomputer software for development planning. Of particular interest were several new population policy projects formulated in Jordan and Yemen and by the League of Arab States. In addition, a new microcomputer-based women-in-development model for urban formal and informal sectors was completed to demonstrate the impact of policies to ensure a more equitable partnership with women in the socio-economic development process. Several major papers concerning women's issues were presented as part of preparatory work for the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development and elsewhere.

87. A United Nations Trust Fund for a Demographic and Health Surveys programme was initiated late in 1991 to expand the purview of the programme supported primarily by USAID via the trust fund mechanism, with DESD inputs in training, data analysis and dissemination. Initial funding for the programme was received in 1992 from the Government of Sweden, while strong expressions of interest were received from a number of other potential sponsors interested in supporting demographic and health survey activities in at least 13 developing countries.

88. During 1992, DESD executed 112 projects in the field of population with a total delivery of $7.6 million. In addition, 48 project-related or direct technical advisory missions to 34 countries were undertaken.

F. Transnational corporations

89. On 1 March 1992 the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations became part of the newly formed DESD.

90. The rapid changes in economic directions and global trends affected both the content and the geographic distribution of the technical cooperation programme in this field. A greater number of projects dealt with economic reform and reformulation of legislation and regulation, privatization and private-sector development and technology issues. In geographic terms, assistance was increasingly provided to Eastern European countries, although about half the technical cooperation programme was in Africa and least developed countries.

91. Against this background, many activities carried out in Latin America and the Caribbean region focused on privatization. In Honduras, the Government-owned telecommunications firm was advised on restructuring and privatizing selected services. In Peru, the State enterprise Instituto peruano de energía nuclear (IPEN) was helped to identify commercial opportunities and investors for its nuclear reactor. The Government of Cuba was helped to promote foreign investment and non-traditional exports, while Nicaragua's National Institute of Energy was helped to formulate and implement a programme to develop the hydrocarbons sector with transnational corporations as sources of risk capital, technical and managerial know-how and markets.

92. In the Caribbean region, a petroleum exploration and development contract was reviewed for the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) in Grenada and a check-list of issues that the IDC would use in negotiating contracts for petroleum exploration and production was prepared. In Antigua and Barbuda, the second phase of a hotel privatization project was completed.

93. In Africa, a three-year programme in Mozambique is improving the Government's capacity to negotiate with transnational corporations and to develop an appropriate legal and institutional framework for foreign investment. The Government of Algeria was assisted in drafting a new foreign investment law and regulations which attempt to increase the role of the private sector without minimizing the Government's role in the management of the economy.

94. In Asia and the Pacific region, the Indian Ocean Commission was assisted in the preparation of a policy paper on the harmonization of foreign investment and development policies within the Commission. A new foreign investment code was drafted for Vanuatu, a policy paper was prepared for Malaysia on technology transfer in developing countries, a draft model petroleum agreement was prepared for Fiji and Tonga was helped to renegotiate a contract with a telecommunications transnational corporation. In collaboration with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), DESD helped Samoa review the financial performance of Polynesian Airlines.

95. In Eastern and Central Europe, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations of Albania was advised on foreign investment and private-sector development. In Romania, a project got under way with the National Agency for Privatization.

96. DESD continued work in harmonizing investment laws, policies and regulations within regions. It helped formulate a project on trade and investment relations between the Organization for Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and Puerto Rico and between OECS and the United States Virgin Islands aimed at increasing trade and investment between OECS and its two island neighbours. In eastern and southern Africa, DESD-assisted integration projects for the Preferential Trade Area for East and Southern Africa and the Southern African Development Council are designed to reduce the costly incidence of competitive bidding by member States to attract foreign investors.

97. Regarding private-sector development, DESD advised the Government of Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania on the planning for loan agreements with the World Bank to undertake large-scale privatization and divestiture programmes. In the United Republic of Tanzania, recommendations were made against the backdrop of the UNDP-funded programme for development of the private sector and the requirements of the Government and the Island Government of Zanzibar. The Government of the Gambia was helped to review draft bidding contracts for the leasing of services provided by the Gambia Utilities Corporation and in Mali an evaluation of the Grand Hotel du Bamako yielded recommendations regarding privatizing the facility.

98. The EMPRETEC programme for Zimbabwe supported the Government's efforts to stimulate employment, investment, technology transfer and exports through small- and medium-size enterprises and also supported the Zimbabwe Investment Centre's capacity to promote foreign investment and generate bankable projects in priority sectors. The programme fostered linkages between small- and

medium-size enterprises and large transnational corporations and stimulated cross-border joint ventures within southern Africa.

99. In the Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, DESD is initiating a project to develop markets for the scientific resources of these countries.

100. Environmental concerns were important in a number of projects. In Latin America, for example, the Government of Chile was helped to draft regulations on sulphur dioxide emissions, the country's largest source of pollution; these regulations were later adopted. The know-how acquired by the Government is allowing it to draft regulations for minor emissions without outside technical cooperation. In Colombia, a legal environmental expert worked with government officials on the country's new environmental protection policy, while in Ecuador, DESD worked with the Government and the private sector on a new law for environmental protection in hydrocarbons. Assistance to Nicaragua is assisting the National Energy Institute in the use of hydrocarbons with attention to environmental regulation.

101. As a follow-up to research in the area of direct foreign investment and transnational corporations in the service sector, DESD, together with the World Bank, is implementing a new UNDP-funded project, "Expansion of Foreign Direct Investment and Trade in Services". The project helped prepare a handbook on the liberalization of foreign direct investment and trade in services and provided assistance to the Governments of Tunisia and Uruguay.

102. In the Caribbean region, the environmental implications of a proposal to build a plant in Grenada to manufacture ethanol from bagasse were reviewed. Also in Grenada, recommendations were made regarding a transnational corporation proposal to establish a battery manufacturing plant.

103. In Asia and the Pacific region, a first draft of the Solomon Islands Environmental Law was prepared with technical cooperation.

104. During the year, DESD organized 36 training workshops, symposiums and round-table conferences relating to direct foreign investment.

105. DESD executed 53 projects in the field of transnational corporations during 1992, with a delivery of $3.9 million.

II. SUPPORT SERVICES

A. Project personnel management

106. The reorganization which brought about the establishment of DESD merged responsibilities for both training and project personnel into a single service. Recruitment and administration of project personnel became the work of two sections of this new service and are discussed in this section of the report. The training component is discussed in section II, part C.

107. International recruitment suffered slightly by comparison with 1991 but improved by the end of the year. The regional distribution of this activity

showed the continued primacy of Africa, with 334 (38 per cent) of all international appointments. Asia and the Pacific region were second with 287 (33 per cent), followed by North America and the Caribbean region with 76 (9 per cent) and the Middle East with 66 (8 per cent).

108. As in the previous year, expertise in natural resources and energy was supplied predominantly by industrialized countries, but demand for this field of activity manifested a sharper decline than for the other areas. Developing countries have played a role of growing importance, providing requisite skills in such fields as finance, public administration, statistics, population, economic development planning, social and community development and, increasingly, management training. Overall, 79 per cent of recruits came from developed countries, with the balance from developing countries.

109. Under the new arrangements for agency support costs and with the rapid progress of national execution of technical cooperation programmes and projects, developing countries have often taken the initiative in determining the character and extent of the assistance they need. As in the previous year, more than four out of five individuals contracted by DESD were high-level consultants assigned to short-term missions. Only about 100 persons received staff appointments for one-year terms or longer under the 200 series of the United Nations Staff Rules.

110. In addition to recruiting consultants, the service also continued to administer the entitlements of all project personnel, which in 1992 numbered some 2,500 individuals, including locally recruited staff.

111. DESD continued to expand its programme to support capacity-building for national execution of technical cooperation projects. In addition to assistance in the area of public administration, DESD provided advice and training on such project support services as recruitment, contracts procedures and procurement.

112. Following the success of the 1989 pilot training workshop for senior cadres of national recruitment services in English, the Meeting of National Recruitment Services, held at Bangkok, Thailand, in 1990, strongly supported the idea of additional training workshops in Spanish and in French. In light of General Assembly resolution 44/211 of 22 December 1989 and Governing Council decisions 82/7 of 18 June 1982 and 92/34 of 26 May 1992, the workshops' twin objectives were to assist in the development of an infrastructure for the effective participation of the developing countries as donors in the international exchange of high-level skills and to enhance their management capabilities for programme and project implementation. A workshop for 16 Spanish-speaking countries was successfully conducted at Madrid, Spain, with visits to Frankfurt, Germany, Geneva, Switzerland, and Tunis, Tunisia, in 1991. A similar francophone workshop was organized at Paris, France with visits to Montpelier, France, Geneva and Tunis from 8 to 24 June 1992. Seventeen participants from as many francophone countries attended. One new dimension of the Spanish- and French-language workshops was the incorporation of training administration (fellowships and study tours).

113. National recruitment services constitute a long-established network which has, over the years, offered substantial support services to DESD. Relations with those services in 1992 continued to be close and very productive.

Preparations have begun for the next biennial Meeting of National Recruitment Services, scheduled to take place at Cairo, Egypt, from 27 March to 2 April 1993.

114. Preliminary figures indicate that total delivery for project personnel in 1992 was $83.9 million.

B. Contracts and procurement service

115. As of 30 November 1992, DESD issued purchase orders and contracts for a total of $28.5 million. Purchase of equipment accounted for about 70 per cent of the total value; the remaining 30 per cent was for the provision of services. In 1991, the respective rates were 72 per cent and 28 per cent. By value, about 35 per cent of all purchase orders and contracts issued in 1992 were placed in developing countries. DESD is attempting to increase the value of purchase orders placed in developing countries further by providing statistical data to the Inter-Agency Procurement Services Office (IAPSO) and by actively participating on IAPSO committees.

116. In favour of a United Nations Secretariat-wide Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), DESD halted development of its own computer-aided procurement system in early 1992 and began close cooperation with IMIS.

C. Training

117. Expenditures for fellowships and training amounted to $21.2 million in 1992. As in 1991, Africa had the largest share of expenditures, 54 per cent, or $11.4 million, Asia and the Pacific region had 27 per cent, or $5.8 million, the Mediterranean, Middle East and interregional programmes had 18 per cent, or $3.7 million, and the Americas had 0.1 per cent, or $0.3 million.

118. In 1992, DESD implemented a total of 3,438 training awards, including fellowships, study tours, seminars and workshops, as compared with 5,312 in 1991. Most placements were made in the United States of America, followed by South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Australia. Resources of developing countries were utilized as much as possible in the training, and approximately half of all trainees were placed in developing countries, a total of 1,718. DESD has continued to give particular attention to women, and awards were granted to 730 women in 1992.

119. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/211 of 22 December 1989 and Governing Council decisions 90/21 and 90/26 of 22 June 1990 and 90/37 of 20 June 1990, DESD continues to provide training to Governments involved in national execution to assist them to acquire the national capacity to implement projects and conform with the managerial, monitoring and reporting requirements of the multilateral technical cooperation system.

120. The 10th meeting of Senior Fellowship Officers, held under DESD auspices at the International Labour Organisation (ILO) International Training Centre in Turin, Italy, from 24 to 26 March, reconfirmed the role of the DESD office in Geneva as the focal point for the United Nations system inter-agency

fellowships. Over 40 participants from major United Nations system fellowship services, host countries and other offices attended. In view of the importance of national execution, the meeting focused on this topic. It concluded that the situation ranged from countries which had fairly substantial capacity to undertake execution of multilateral technical cooperation projects to countries which did not yet have such capacity, with some beneficiary countries in a position in between, and that the United Nations agencies had a vital role in training national staff. It was generally recognized that the United Nations fellowship services had a comparative advantage in placing, administering and maintaining fellows.

121. DESD continued to cooperate with the Department of Political Affairs on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (UNETPSA). In 1992, contributions and pledges amounted to over $5.35 million - a significant decrease in resources over the previous year's $5.9 million. Pursuant to its resolution 46/80 of 13 December 1981, in which the General Assembly considered that the Programme should have the flexibility to provide educational and training assistance to disadvantaged South Africans within the country itself, it became necessary to survey South African academic institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and intergovernmental agencies engaged in granting scholarships to disadvantaged South Africans and some tertiary institutions such as the traditionally black and white open universities. With this expanded mandate, UNETPSA policy directives now focus on funding inside South Africa and abroad to build institutional capacity of NGOs, especially the historically black and other universities and communities; to provide black leadership skills training to facilitate the transition to a non-racial and democratic South Africa; and to train black lawyers and judges for the effective administration of justice in a post-apartheid South Africa.

122. UNETPSA continues to support educational training outside of South Africa where appropriate. Priority funding abroad focuses on short-term specialized training or post-graduate courses not available inside South Africa, especially in high-technology, public administration, policy research, policy planning, education management, engineering and natural and applied sciences, for which there is an immediate need. UNETPSA recently initiated projects to strengthen the education management capabilities of the historically black universities. The programme continues to emphasize training at technical and first-degree levels in Africa in fields most relevant to the development of southern Africa.

123. During this reporting period, UNETPSA sponsored 2,108 South African and Namibian students world wide, over 43 per cent of whom are women. The programme continues to cooperate with scholarship agencies, NGOs and educational institutions in co-sponsorship arrangements to increase the number of students assisted. Recommendations to strengthen the Programme's administration, adopted by the Advisory Committee on UNETPSA, continued to be implemented in 1992.

124. In September 1992 in South Africa, UNETPSA co-sponsored, with the Special Committee against Apartheid, a follow-up to the International Conference on the Educational Needs of the Victims of Apartheid. While noting some positive developments, this conference focused on the continuing education crisis in South Africa. Some fields of education and training were identified as critical for the international community to focus on in order to assist South Africans in restructuring the educational system and implementing a human resource

development strategy for a post-apartheid South Africa. UNETPSA was once again called upon to play a leading role in this international effort.

125. The DESD office at Geneva, which is responsible for placement and administration of fellows and study tour participants in Europe, provided 750 fellowships in 1992. This office continues to issue the annual Directory of Training Courses and Programmes, which provides authoritative and comprehensive information on development training facilities in Europe and neighbouring areas, with emphasis on training facilities for TCDC.

D. Financial management

126. The successor arrangements for agency support costs were introduced during the first quarter of 1992. As of 1 July 1992, all new UNDP-financed projects were implemented in accordance with the guidelines issued by UNDP on the new regime. DESD had an active role in the negotiations in 1991 on the successor arrangements and continued to participate fully in 1992 in all meetings of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) Task Force on Support Costs. In early 1992, these discussions focused on the operational aspects of the guidelines and issues related to implementation, while meetings throughout the remainder of the year centred on the extent of agency participation in new projects and the difficulties encountered in the conversion to the new system.

127. Detailed training sessions were organized within DESD to explain the rationale behind the new regime, the distinction among the three new facilities available to the Department (TSS-1, TSS-2 and Administrative and Operational Support (AOS)) and the procedures to be followed in both executing and implementing projects under this innovative system.

128. DESD also participated in training workshops organized by UNDP to familiarize field practitioners, including government officials and representatives of UNDP and agencies, with the new mechanisms and the underlying policy framework approved by the Governing Council.

129. As a result of the above changes, the Project Management System was further enhanced to facilitate compliance with UNDP revised reporting requirements under the successor arrangements.

130. DESD continued its close collaboration with the IMIS Project Team to ensure that the Department's comprehensive requirements related to technical cooperation activities, both in terms of user requirements and financial reporting, are incorporated into IMIS. To this end, DESD participated in numerous meetings with IMIS, provided extensive documentation on current procedures and reports produced from the system, highlighted future needs and demonstrated the current project management system to the team so that all facets of implementation of technical cooperation projects will be incorporated into IMIS. Once this system is fully operational, the current DESD Project Management System will be discontinued.

E. Management services

131. In 1992, at the request of various international financial institutions, DESD created a Loan Administration Unit to assist in executing large multi-purpose and multidisciplinary capital investment projects and programmes in developing countries. In mid-1992 a cooperation agreement was signed between the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Department, which enabled DESD to act as an IFAD cooperating institution. This responsibility entails the provision by DESD of a full range of management services to the borrowing countries, from the overall coordination and supervision of projects to such project-related support services as technical advice on preparation of work plans and budgets, preparation of agricultural plans, procurement of goods and services, disbursement of funds, implementation of loan covenants, recruitment and training and monitoring and evaluation.

132. During 1992, DESD began assisting IFAD in executing six projects for a period of about five years, with a total investment of $78.5 million, in the Philippines and Samoa in Asia and in Guinea, Mauritania, Rwanda and Senegal in Africa. These projects will help increase food production, reduce under-nutrition and alleviate rural poverty. They will assist these countries to apply innovative strategies and pragmatic approaches which enhance existing institutional capacity at the grass-roots levels to respond to local demand and to mobilize local resources to generate off-farm employment activities.

133. Under this arrangement, the five-year Visayas Communal Irrigation Project in the Philippines will provide irrigation facilities in 10,700 hectares of cultivable land and will provide such agricultural support services as extension, inputs and technology. In Samoa, the focus is on long-term development in rural areas, primarily the restoration of agricultural and educational facilities. In Senegal, rural communities are being helped to increase food production through protection and rehabilitation of the environment, provision of rural credit and support to project management. In Guinea and Rwanda, sustainable agricultural practices are designed to increase food production in five years by about 21,000 tons (in Rwanda) and 23,000 (in Guinea) per annum. In Mauritania, the assistance will help diversify crops.

134. In the above projects, women will be brought into the mainstream of development by realigning institutions to cater to their specific needs, enhancing their technical skills and involving them in the decision-making process. Another main thrust is to restore the ecological balance of the uplands through integrating upstream and downstream development activities within the common planning framework of resource management to benefit the poorest farmers, ensuring a cost-effective, replicable and financially viable approach for self-sustaining development.

135. Based on its preliminary experience, DESD is taking steps to extend its cooperation to other financial institutions and bilateral donors.

F. Reports

136. In 1992, DESD issued 28 agency terminal reports and 20 seminar reports totalling 3,175 printed pages and covering the range of departmental technical cooperation activities. Of the agency terminal reports, 10 covered countries in Africa, 13 in Asia, 6 in the Caribbean region and Latin America and 1 in Europe. Two of those reports were translated. (A list of reports issued in 1992 is contained in the annex.)

137. Some 400 reports were entered on the Development Information System (DIS), a part of the Reports Unit since January 1990. DIS is a computerized database of reference to unpublished material written by or for the United Nations on economic and social development. It provides member States, United Nations officials and institutions involved in economic and social development with rapid access to studies and reports generated by several offices of the United Nations. Development Information Abstracts, the main publication of DIS, is issued periodically and lists a selection of items recently added to the DIS database. In 1992, three issues of the Development Information Abstracts were distributed to 1,700 users and some 700 oral and written requests for searches and/or documents were handled.

III. WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

138. In 1992, DESD provided technical support to the World Food Programme (WFP) to examine food aid projects in low-income, food deficit and least developed countries. DESD took part in five WFP-supported inter-agency missions fielded to Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Kenya and Mexico to formulate, appraise and, in certain cases, evaluate projects. In addition, 20 aid projects valued at $272 million were reviewed and suggestions were made for improvements as regards the development context, technical feasibility and technical consistency of each project.

Annex

REPORTS ISSUED IN 1992 a/

A. Project reports

Unless otherwise noted, all entries are agency terminal reports in English.

BZE-87-006/1	BELIZE	Gold Prospecting in the Southern Maya Mountains. 17 pp.
BHU-83-019/1	BHUTAN	Strengthening the Survey Department. 38 pp., 4 maps.
BKF-83-P02/1 and 2	BURKINA FASO	General Census of the Population of Burkina Faso. English and French. 24 and 26 pp.
ETH-86-S34/1	ETHIOPIA	Training for Mineral Exploration, Phase II. 25 pp., 2 maps.
GAB-87-001/1	GABON	Renforcement de la Direction de la géologie et de la recherche minière. French. 39 pp., 6 maps.
IND-84-011/1	INDIA	Groundwater Studies in the Kasai and Subarnarekha River Basins. 36 pp., 2 maps.
IND-88-013/1	INDIA	Training of Personnel in the Mineral Resources Sector. 21 pp.
IRA-88-003/1	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	National Transportation Planning System. 19 pp.
JAM-83-004/1	JAMAICA	National Water Resources Development Master Plan. 40 pp., 2 maps.
JAM-87-002/1	JAMAICA	Exploration and Development of Non-metallic Minerals. 27 pp., 1 map.
JAM-90-002/1	JAMAICA	Mineral Resources Development. 26 pp., 1 map.
ROK-87-005/1	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	Transportation Information Management System. 37 pp.
ROK-89-001/1	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	Computerized Geophysical Data Interpretation. 21 pp.

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a/ Those reports that were still being processed at the end of 1992 are not listed.

LAO-86-003/1	LAOS	Muong Hom Integrated Rural Development Project, Phase II, 1987-1989. 19 pp., 1 map.
LES-87-005/1	LESOTHO	Economic Planning and Management. 18 pp.
MAG-80-012/1	MADAGASCAR	Topographie aérienne et études topographiques pour la réhabilitation du canal des Pangalanes. French. 18 pp.
MLW-80-30/1	MALAWI	Airborne Geophysical Survey and Strengthening of the Mineral Sector. 29 pp., 5 maps.
MAL-87-030/1	MALAYSIA	Mineral Development, Policy and Planning. 43 pp.
MOZ-86-023/1	MOZAMBIQUE	Assistance to the Ministry of Mineral Resources. 47 pp., 1 map.
NEP-87-006/1	NEPAL	Gold Exploration in Western Nepal. 27 pp., 5 maps.
OMA-87-027/1	OMAN	Social Development Programme, Phase III (1987-1991). 64 pp.
PAK-85-001/1	PAKISTAN	Gemstone Exploration and Beneficiation. 51 pp., 1 map.
POL-89-001/1	POLAND	Provision of State-of-the-art Geophysical Technology for Rockburst Prognosis in Coal Mines. 37 pp.
SRL-87-015/1	SRI LANKA	Macroeconomic, Sectoral and Subnational Planning. 15 pp.
VIE-85-004/1	VIET NAM	Rehabilitation of Cartographic Printing Facilities of the State Department of Geodesy and Cartography. 39 pp.
PDY-89-003/1	YEMEN	Mineral Planning. 38 pp., 1 map.
ZAM-86-009/1	ZAMBIA	Assistance in Development Planning to the Transport Planning Unit in the Ministry of Power, Transport and Communications. 39 pp.

B. Seminar reports

INT-88-PO9 Traitement des données d'un recensement par micro-ordinateur. 41 pp. French.

INT-88-R41 Water Resources Management Techniques for Small Islands. 364 pp.

INT-89-PO5 Population and Development. 152 pp.

INT-90-R75 Metropolitan Management with Special Reference to Urban Structure, Poverty and Environmental Protection. 63 pp.

INT-90-R76 The Role of the Public Sector in Promoting the Economic Development of Developing Countries. 75 pp.

INT-90-R77 Improving Revenue Administration in Developing Countries. 245 pp.

INT-90-R78 Size and Cost of the Civil Service: Reform Programmes in Africa. 112 pp.

INT-90-R79 Computerization of Government Accounting in Developing Countries. 109 pp.

INT-91-R29 Testing of Training Modules on Women, Water Supply and Sanitation. 87 pp. (with INSTRAW).

INT-91-R71 Role of Public Administration in Environmental Management, Vol. I. 46 pp.

INT-91-R71 Role of Public Administration in Environmental Management, Vol. II, 141 pp.

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INT-91-R78 La décentralisation en Afrique. 85 pp. French.

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UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

Other entities and programmes

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

SUMMARY

The present addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations technical cooperation activities provides an overview of the work of organizational entities (other than that of the Department of Economic and Social Development of the United Nations Secretariat) which engage in technical cooperation activities. The overview, provided by the regional commissions, the Centre for Human Rights, the United Nations Office at Vienna, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Environment Programme, covers activities undertaken by these entities in 1992.

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I. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) continued to carry out a programme of technical cooperation aimed at furthering the economic and social development of the countries of the region.

2. In 1992, resources of over $2.3 million were allocated from the United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation to support the services of regional advisors, to assist the Commission's Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) and to finance regional and subregional activities in economic cooperation and integration, public administration and finance, social development, statistics, transport and communications, tourism and energy.

3. As in previous years, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continued to be ECA's major source of funds for technical cooperation activities its contribution amounting to $11.5 million. Assistance was provided in transport and communications; development information systems; economic cooperation and integration, notably to support intergovernmental organizations; administration and management reform; statistical development and data collection; women in development; the monitoring of the implementation of UNPAAERD; strategy development; building materials; industrial development and technology.

4. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) allotted almost $3 million in 1992 in support of regional population activities executed by ECA.

5. The United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD) contributed about $2.1 million for activities relating to women in development, transport and communications, economic cooperation and integration, food technology, rural and agricultural development, small-scale industry, mineral development, science and technology, development information systems, the informal sector, population and fellowships.

6. Bilateral donors and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) provided a total of $1.7 million in support of ECA activities in the region in the fields of popular participation, women in development, food technology, rural and agricultural development, trypanosomiasis control, small-scale industry, science and technology, development information systems, the informal sector, population, project management and fellowships.

II. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

7. During 1992, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) provided assistance to programmes designed to promote the economic reconstruction of Europe in response to the radical changes which have taken place in the countries of central and eastern Europe. In order to provide the countries in transition with urgent practical assistance, ECE continued its programme of workshops on questions relating to transition, which focus on market adaptation, privatization, restructuring of industry, foreign investment, housing

policies, etc. More than 70 such workshops have been organized since the programme was launched in the second half of 1990.

8. ECE also continued to execute and initiate a number of technical cooperation activities in 1992, with the financial support of UNDP and UNFPA, in the sectors of energy, statistics, population, trade and transport. These activities included a government-sponsored project entitled "Energy Efficiency 2000", designed to close the energy-efficiency gap between the industries of the former east European nations and the West, and a project entitled "Global Energy Efficiency 21 - an Interregional Approach", intended to facilitate the transfer of information on energy-efficient technologies and management practices.

9. ECE continued preparation of the project on applied statistical computing for countries in transition. In June 1992, the UNDP Governing Council decided to include the project in the fifth regional programming cycle. In January 1993, ECE organized a workshop of experts concerning preparation of the project document itself and has also initiated cooperation with EUROSTAT on the project.

10. In population, ECE, in cooperation with UNFPA, began to implement projects relating to east-west migration, social and economic characteristics of elderly populations, fertility and family surveys and population-related policies. In addition, in collaboration with UNFPA and the Council of Europe, it made preparations for a regional intergovernmental population conference to be held in March 1993, preparatory to the International Conference on Population and Development to be held in Cairo in 1994.

11. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/76, ECE has developed a programme for assisting economies in transition with regard to trade facilitation and EDIFACT (Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport). The programme includes studies on trade infrastructure in transitional economies for use in identifying major requirements and appropriate solutions in the areas of trade facilitation and electronic data interchange; the development of educational materials and the training of national experts in those areas and the provision of advice and assistance in the establishment of national trade facilitation centres. Having been well received by the ECE Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures, this programme has been presented to member countries and funding organizations for consideration. ECE also works closely with UNCTAD in the dissemination and promotion of recommendations and standards in the field of trade facilitation and will contribute to the UNCTAD programme on trade efficiency and participate in the trade efficiency symposium on that topic scheduled for 1994.

12. In the transport sector, ECE carried out a series of missions to the countries in transition in central and eastern Europe and to other countries of the region to provide advice and assistance in the development of transport programmes and infrastructure.

13. Further progress was made in advancing the Trans-European North-South Motorway project, for which a trust fund has been established, and in establishing the technical parameters for the planning, design and construction of the Trans-European Railway (TER) network.

III. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

14. During 1992, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) carried out a wide range of activities providing technical cooperation and advisory services to the countries of the region within the framework of the ECLAC programme of work as approved by member countries at the twenty-third session of the Commission (Caracas, May 1990). Technical assistance during the reporting year continued to be oriented towards the strengthening of the performance of national public-sector development agencies. The establishment of linkages between such agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other agents in the private sector, was emphasized as a general orientation of ECLAC's technical cooperation activities.

15. The several components of the ECLAC system (the secretariat proper, the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE)) carried out 181 assistance missions in close coordination with the government authorities and UNDP resident coordinators in the recipient countries. With regard to training, ILPES organized international and national courses in the field of social-economic planning and policy coordination for nearly 4,000 professionals of the region. ILPES awarded 28 full fellowships funded mainly by Spain and France.

16. As in previous years, CELADE continued its specialized training activities in population and demography. Support was given to 45 fellows who attended population and development courses. These activities were funded by extrabudgetary contributions from the Netherlands, Canada and UNFPA.

17. The various subregional offices of ECLAC continued their numerous activities in the specific geographical areas under their responsibility. The subregional office in Mexico City gave continuous support to institutional cooperation aimed at fostering the subregional integration process in Central America. Support for the economic recovery and restructuring of the countries of the subregion was also a prominent activity of this office during the reporting year. The subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, cooperated closely with the technical secretariat of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC). The Montevideo office gave technical backstopping to the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) and was actively engaged in the provision of advisory services to government agencies. The Buenos Aires and Brasilia offices continued their support to integration initiatives between their host countries.

18. The ECLAC system continued to collaborate with the secretariat of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) on a wide range of subjects of mutual concern. In particular, ECLAC worked closely with SELA-sponsored initiatives to increase consultation and coordination among regional organizations on a continuous basis.

19. As in previous years, UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and UNFPA continued to support ECLAC in its technical cooperation activities. In this connection it should also be noted that the ECLAC secretariat includes a joint division between ECLAC and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Finally, mention shall be made of the generous and

substantial support provided by a number of donor countries through voluntary contributions to technical cooperation projects executed by ECLAC.

IV. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

20. Although the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) received substantial financial contributions from various sources within and outside the United Nations system for the implementation of its technical cooperation activities in 1992, and contributions fell by 23 per cent by comparison with the previous year, which may be attributed basically to a drop in funding by UNDP and UNFPA of 53 per cent and 11 per cent, respectively. Significant voluntary financial contributions were also received from traditional donor countries and from developing countries to implement activities of mutual concern within the framework of the ESCAP work programme. Contributions in kind were also received from donor and developing member countries.

21. In its technical cooperation activities the Commission continued to accord special attention to the least developed countries and the Pacific island developing countries. During 1992, ESCAP regional advisers under the United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation rendered technical and advisory services to 26 developing countries in the Asia and Pacific region through 37 missions. These services pertained to such fields as macroeconomic management and economic reform, the negotiation and promotion of trade policies, water resources, remote sensing and geographic information systems, energy, environmental management, national accounts and social development. Similarly, UNFPA-financed advisers on population censuses and surveys, family planning and maternal and child health management, information systems, population policies and population and development rendered services to 20 countries through 37 missions.

22. For the island developing countries in the Pacific, short-term advisory services continued to be provided by the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC) at Port Vila, Vanuatu, in development economics and finance, physical planning and port and harbour development. EPOC also dispatched quick-action consultancy missions to island developing countries.

23. Technical cooperation projects funded by UNDP and bilateral donors addressed important questions pertaining to poverty alleviation; environmentally sound and sustainable development; human resources development and integration of women in development; energy and natural resources, including energy planning, new and renewable sources of energy and remote sensing and its applications; industrial restructuring and promotion of competitive manufacturing; international trade and tourism and transport and communications, including port development, inland water transport, highways and rural road infrastructure and railways. A new initiative has also been launched to provide technical assistance to transitionally disadvantaged economies.

24. UNFPA continued its institutional support of ESCAP, thereby enabling the Commission to continue enhancing its technical assistance to and training for national population centres. Funds were also provided for research activities in such fields as population change and women's role, population ageing,

rural-urban migration, population and environment and training in the use of microcomputers for population data and information. All these activities were aimed at assisting developing countries to formulate population policies and to integrate them into their development plans and human resources development efforts.

25. ESCAP continued to cooperate closely with FAO in research and development relating to legumes and coarse grains in the Asian tropics and subtropics and with FAO and UNIDO in activities within the framework of the project for the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific. It also cooperated with UNEP and the World Bank in the field of environment, with the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) on natural disaster reduction in the region and with UNCTAD in the field of international trade.

26. In collaboration with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations the ESCAP TCDC Supplementary Fund supported 33 operational TCDC activities in the fields of agriculture (including fisheries, irrigation, agricultural extension and rural industrialization), natural resources development, industry and human settlements, environment, population, social development, science and technology and international trade.

V. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

27. During the period under review, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) continued to undertake technical cooperation activities in the region through the provision of short-term regional advisory services and the monitoring and substantive support of technical assistance projects which the Commission undertakes in its capacity as an executing agency.

28. In the area of data processing, advisory services were provided to Egypt, Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

29. In development planning, assistance was rendered to Oman and Palestine.

30. In demography, advice was provided to Egypt, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Syria and Yemen and in population statistics, to Oman and Saudi Arabia.

31. In energy, advisory services were provided to Egypt, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Syria and Yemen, and in science and technology, to Jordan, Oman and Yemen.

32. In environment, advice was provided to Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

33. In human resources development, advice was provided to Jordan, Oman and Yemen.

34. In industrial development, assistance was extended to Jordan and Yemen.

35. In national accounts and economic statistics, assistance was provided to Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

36. In transport and communications, assistance was extended to Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

37. In water-resources development, advice was provided to Bahrain, Jordan, Oman and Syria.

38. In addition, advisors participated in meetings and seminars organized by regional organizations.

39. Technical assistance projects in progress during 1992 included a project on the promotion of industrial entrepreneurship in countries of the ESCWA region, which focused on the development of indigenous industrial entrepreneurship and small-scale manufacturing. Another project entitled "Interregional Symposium on Gas Development" was aimed at assessing gas potential and market prospects and at the formulation of policies for the production and transportation of gas for the years 2000 and beyond. A symposium in this connection was held in Damascus, Syria, in June 1992. A project on the establishment of engineering-infrastructure industries in the ESCWA region was designed to accelerate the development and growth of industries in general and the engineering industry in particular and to rationalize and promote the operationalization of the capacities of existing industries producing intermediate engineering products.

40. Finally, ESCWA continued to execute an increasing number of projects financed from the United Nations Development Fund for Women. Most of these projects concern the roles of women in national development efforts.

VI. CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

41. Within its technical cooperation programme, the Centre for Human Rights provides Governments, at their request, with the following forms of assistance: advisory services of experts, fellowships and scholarships, seminars and regional and national training courses.

42. The Centre's advisory services and technical assistance programme aims at (a) furthering knowledge and understanding of international human rights standards and their normative content with a view to promoting their widest application; (b) facilitating the implementation of international human rights standards; (c) providing technical assistance to Governments in the establishment and development of national infrastructures for the promotion and protection of internationally recognized human rights norms.

43. In 1988, the Voluntary Fund for Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights was established in order to supplement resources existing within the regular budget. This Fund has provided most of the resources used in connection with technical cooperation. In 1992, it received donations amounting to about $600,000.

44. The resources of the Fund are allocated primarily to finance activities aimed at building up or strengthening national and regional infrastructures for the promotion and protection of human rights. Training and other support activities continue to provide the necessary basic information and knowledge needed for the implementation of human rights norms.

45. During 1992, the Voluntary Fund financed legislative assistance in Bulgaria, Hungary, Mongolia, Nepal and Paraguay; electoral assistance in Angola, Eritrea, Cambodia, Lesotho, Malawi and Romania; national and subregional centres for documentation and training in Colombia, Gambia, Poland, Tunisia, Uganda and Uruguay and training courses, seminars and workshops in Albania, Benin, Botswana, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Italy, Romania, Spain and Swaziland.

46. Based on experience acquired through the organization of workshops and training courses, the Centre is developing teaching and training manuals on elections and manuals designed for specific target groups, including police officials and judges and magistrates and lawyers. The Centre also continued to support the African Commission of Human and People's Rights of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

47. In 1992, the Centre adopted a new approach to advisory services and technical cooperation, which seeks a closer partnership with United Nations agencies and other institutions; in this system-wide cooperation, countries requesting assistance from the Centre can rely on it to analyse their human rights needs and present a comprehensive programme to meet their requirements. The Centre may partially implement projects, but for the most part it helps individual countries to contact other agencies and bilateral donors and then encourages those agencies and donors to finance and implement specific projects within the comprehensive programme for the country concerned. Within that context, UNDP and the Centre are discussing an informal mechanism of consultations as well as stronger cooperation in the field.

48. Under this new approach, in 1992 the Centre for Human Rights provided advisory services to the Governments of Albania, Benin, Colombia, Mongolia, Namibia and Sao Tome and Principe to assess their needs in the field of human rights. Additional funding and human resources are, however, necessary to cope with the increasing demand for assistance in human rights. Over 40 requests for technical assistance from Member States in the field of human rights could not be met because of insufficient financial and human resources.

VII. UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT VIENNA

49. In 1992, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA) focused its concern on building national capacities and institutional capabilities in accordance with a social perspective on development. Special attention was also accorded to issues related to the advancement of women, crime prevention and criminal justice and the situation of specific social groups, including the elderly, disabled persons and youth.

50. There is growing evidence of governmental concern with the social perspective on development as they devote increased attention at both policy and programme levels to linking the issues of livelihood, well-being and standards of living. In line with this new focus on social concerns, CSDHA organized a high-level mission to the Russian Federation to advise on transition to market-based mechanisms viewed from a social perspective. The results of this mission have been published by the David Hume Institute in a technical monograph entitled "Social policies in the transition to a market economy".

51. The introduction of arrangements succeeding the support-costs regime provided CSDHA with increased opportunities to cooperate with UNDP in assisting Governments which request help, programme design and project formulation form a social perspective. Such support included ad hoc advisory services financed from UNDP core resources to Indonesia on improving systems and procedures for public-, private- and voluntary-sector cooperation in achieving the social objectives of development; to Lesotho on a joint DESD-CSDHA planning and programming mission in the economic and social sectors and to Oman on a joint ESCWA-CSDHA social development programming mission.

52. Peace-keeping operations represent an emerging area of demand, and a source of finances, for technical cooperation in the social field. CSHDA has been assisting the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) in the development of training and reference materials on crime prevention and on a code of conduct for public officials. It has also been collaborating with UNPROFOR and UNDP in a social reconstruction initiative co-financed through a major contribution by Austria and through in-kind assistance from the Austrian private sector.

53. Advisory services financed by UNDP and other extra-budgetary resources were complemented by three DESD interregional advisors assigned to CSDHA in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice, social policies and development, and the advancement of women. During the period under review, these three advisors undertook a total of 27 policy-level advisory missions to Governments at their request.

54. With regard to the advancement of women, CSDHA organized, under the Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation, a regional workshop on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Antigua, April 1992). The Workshop was designed to improve capacities to meet the reporting obligations of the Convention and to increase awareness of its applicability at national and international levels.

55. In connection with crime prevention and criminal justice, during the period under review, CSDHA cooperated in the organization of 10 training seminars on priority topics, including administration of justice, organized crime and prison administration and management. Half of these seminars were co-financed by the Centre for Human Rights, and the rest were organized jointly with regional and interregional bodies dealing with crime. This participation in the organization and conduct of workshops was complemented by collaboration with concerned centres and institutions in the joint preparation of training materials on such key topics as computerization of criminal justice systems, pre-trial detention, allotment of life sentences and overcrowding in prisons. As noted above, a major substantive contribution by CSDHA has been its preparation, in cooperation with UNTAC, of training and reference materials on improved criminal justice administration in Cambodia.

56. Issues related to specific social groups are one of the core areas of CSDHA in its capacity as global focal point in the fields of ageing, disabled persons and youth. During the period under review advice and assistance was provided to Governments, at their request, in conjunction with interregional advisory services from the Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation and through earmarked contributions. The principal topics for technical cooperation in the

field of ageing include productive ageing and target-setting as a major element in implementing strategies and policies related to ageing. As for the topic of disability, the major focus in technical cooperation activities has been on advice and assistance on legislative guidelines for promoting the rights of disabled persons, the practical integration of disability issues into mainstream policies and programmes and the establishment and development of national coordinating committees and similar mechanisms. In the field of youth, a number of Governments have requested advice and assistance in the design of strategies and policies to incorporate young persons in all aspects of development as agents and beneficiaries. There is growing recognition that the well-being of future generations is possible only through comprehensive involvement of young persons as development agents and beneficiaries.

57. The CSDHA-administered trust fund concerning ageing, disabled persons and youth provided a total of $436,300 in seed-money grants to 33 small-scale projects.

VIII. UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMME

58. The period under review constitutes the first full year of operations of the United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) established under General Assembly resolution 45/179 in March 1991. After extensive internal review and consultations with Governments, the Programme's strategic directions were completed and are currently in the early phases of implementation.

59. The priorities of the Programme include (a) coordinating and integrating the various drug control efforts of Governments, United Nations bodies, international financial institutions and other public- and private-sector entities in order to increase the effectiveness and impact of drug-control interventions at the national, regional and global levels with due consideration given to comparative advantages and the scope for synergy; (b) improving UNDCP capacities to gather, analyse and disseminate drug-control information in order to facilitate effective planning by Governments; (c) assisting Governments in the development of national drug-control master-plans to provide a frame of reference for national, bilateral and multilateral assistance and ensure that the best possible use is made of the scarce resources available for international drug control; (d) giving special attention to the drug-control needs of regions such as eastern Europe and central Asia, which have recently undergone fundamental political and socio-economic change; (e) placing increased emphasis on programmes and projects devoted to efforts to reduce demand and particularly to preventive education and rehabilitation, while redefining and improving catalytic interventions by UNDCP in the fields of alternative development, law enforcement and judicial reform with a view to creating favourable conditions for more substantial participation by Governments and external donors.

60. UNDCP is uniquely placed to facilitate cooperation between countries in developing subregional drug-control strategies. During 1992, action initiated by UNDCP for this purpose included innovative technical consultations and plans of action relating to drug issues in south-west Asia as well as cooperation agreements between Myanmar and Thailand and Myanmar and China. UNDCP also

developed key drug-control inputs in the reconstruction efforts of Lebanon and Afghanistan.

61. The total estimated expenditure on operational activities in 1992 was $71.5 million. UNDCP provided assistance to 73 countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America and the Caribbean through 201 national, regional and global level projects in all sectors of drug control.

IX. OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

62. The Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat advises and assists United Nations bodies and units at Headquarters and in the field, including DESD, UNDP and related programmes and offices, on matters pertaining to the establishment, application and interpretation of legal instruments and rules relating to cooperation programmes. The work, which is of a continuing nature, includes drafting and interpreting constitutive instruments, terms of reference and financial and other regulations, rules and directives of United Nations bodies; drafting, interpreting and advising on basic assistance agreements, loan agreements, project documents, trust fund arrangements, cost-sharing agreements, management services agreements and contracts with Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, executing agencies and private parties; providing legal advice and assistance in the negotiation and settlement of legal disputes and advising on administrative, personnel, financial and contractual questions derived from technical cooperation activities and on problems involving United Nations privileges and immunities.

63. The Office of Legal Affairs also performs various activities connected with the goals of the United Nations programme of assistance in the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, which fall also within the objectives of the United Nations Decade of International Law. The Office received and assigned interns to participate in tasks related to some of its projects at no financial cost to the Organization. It participated in the United Nations/United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Fellowship Programme in International Law, financed from the regular budget and from voluntary contributions from States. A total of 19 fellowships were awarded in 1992. The Office also cooperated in training and assistance programmes sponsored by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and organized the activities connected with the award of the sixth and seventh Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea financed from a trust fund of voluntary contributions.

X. UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

64. The technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) (Habitat) are focused on assisting Governments in the formulation of policies and strategies to create a self-reliant human settlements management capacity at both national and local levels. In direct response to increasing demand from Governments of developing countries, UNCHS (Habitat) technical cooperation activities continued to expand during 1992,

particularly with regard to the provision of support to government policy makers in strengthening human settlements management capacity within the framework of the national development planning process.

65. During 1992, UNCHS supported the implementation of over 260 technical cooperation programmes and projects in more than 90 countries, of which 82 projects were in least developed countries (LDCs). Funds budgeted in 1992, as of the end of the third quarter, totalled $47 million.

66. UNDP continued to be the major source of funding for UNCHS technical cooperation programmes and projects during 1992, accounting for 65 per cent of the UNCHS technical cooperation budget for 1992. Reflecting recent trends, however, both host-government and third-party cost-sharing for UNCHS programmes and projects continued to expand during 1992, rising to 23 per cent of the total funds budgeted for technical cooperation. This shows that by helping Governments to define priorities relating to human settlements, UNCHS is increasingly playing a catalytic role in the mobilization of resources from bilateral donors, multilateral development banks and the private sector. These resources are normally then leveraged as cost-sharing contributions to UNDP country programmes. Resources mobilized in this way are crucial in regions where UNDP resources are particularly limited.

67. The technical cooperation activities of UNCHS also continued to be very effectively leveraged within the framework of national investment programming. UNDP's latest statistics on 1991 investment commitments related to UNDP-assisted projects clearly illustrate this point, showing that the 1991 investment commitments resulting from UNCHS-executed projects amounted to over $1,350,000,000. Accordingly, while UNCHS served as executing agency for less than 2 per cent of the indicative planning figures (IPFs) of UNDP resources, UNCHS-executed projects resulted in over 16 per cent of the total investment commitments related to all UNDP-assisted projects in 1991.

68. In an increasing number of cases, UNCHS is aiding both the design and implementation of nationally executed projects. Moreover, out of a total of over 600 project personnel fielded during 1992, over 60 per cent were national experts and consultants. Similarly, according to the latest available statistics on the operational activities of the United Nations system, over 67 per cent of the total procurement of UNCHS for 1991 was from developing countries (A/47/419/Add.2).

69. Assisting Governments in their presentations for the UNDP fifth programming cycle, UNCHS continued during the 1991-1992 period to expand its Human Settlements Sector Analysis and Needs Assessment Programme to provide a sound basis for shifting to a country-based programme approach. In 1992, the Centre supported 17 human-settlements sector analysis and needs assessments missions to Cambodia, Fiji, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh, Albania, the Central African Republic, Rwanda, the Gambia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia, Panama, Ecuador and Indonesia and to the Caribbean.

70. At the request of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), UNCHS seconded staff to work with the UNCED secretariat to help prepare the human settlements chapter and related sections of Agenda 21.

71. The UNCED process also identified the UNCHS Sustainable Cities Programme (SCP) as an important vehicle for supporting municipal authorities world wide in improving their environmental planning and management capacity. With financial support from UNDP (IPFs) and bilateral donors, SCP was active during 1992 in the United Republic of Tanzania, Egypt, Chile and India; and new SCP initiatives were launched in Ghana, Nigeria, Tunisia, Ecuador, Poland and Indonesia.

72. The UNDP Division for Global and Interregional Programmes (DGIP) is providing core funding for two of those highly important global technical cooperation programmes, one of which - the Urban Management Programme (UMP) - was identified in the UNCED process as being an important collaborative programme for implementing Agenda 21. With urban environment management as one of its strategic areas of focus during 1992, the administration of UMP was decentralized to four regional offices located in Togo, Ecuador, Malaysia and Egypt. During 1992, UMP benefited from increased financial support from what has now grown into an important consortium of nine bilateral donors. The other major global programme financed by UNDP/DGIP and launched by UNCHS in 1992 is the preparatory assistance phase of a programme entitled "Improving living conditions and expanding employment opportunities in urban low-income communities". UNCHS is implementing this programme in partnership with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the United Nations Volunteers (UNV).

XI. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

73. The expenditures in 1992 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on technical cooperation amounted to about $20 million. Although UNDP remains the most important single source of funds, an increasing proportion of the overall programme is supported by bilateral donors and other sources of official development assistance.

74. In the field of trade, activities included support to developing countries participating in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and assistance in the development of the service sector in developing countries; trade policy reform; the utilization of the generalized system of preferences; the implementation of competition policies and the control of restrictive business practices; the transfer of technology and trade between developing countries and countries with economies in transition. TRAINFORTRADE, UNCTAD's new programme on the development of human resources for the trade sector, became fully operational in 1992.

75. UNCTAD's programme for helping developing countries to manage their external debt liabilities, which is carried out in cooperation with the World Bank, continued to expand. Further assistance was provided to interested countries for the development of their insurance sector and to countries members of the Group of 24 in connection with various international monetary issues.

76. Assistance was also provided in the area of commodity production, diversification and marketing, including help in improving the management of food-grain imports. A number of groupings of developing countries established for purposes of integration continued to cooperate with UNCTAD.

77. Several LDCs worked closely with the UNCTAD technical cooperation programme. Further work was undertaken on the transit problems of land-locked countries in Africa. Activities related to maritime transport included the development of shipping services in several countries, human-resource development under the TRIAINMAR programme and assistance in improving port management, and utilizing modern technologies for multimodal transport.

78. Over 50 countries cooperate with UNCTAD in an effort to improve customs management under what is now its largest technical cooperation programme. UNCTAD is also disseminating its database on trade control measures to a growing number of countries.

79. Detailed information on the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD available through its regular reports thereon (for the period 1989-1991, see TD/B/WP/76 and Add.1 of 6 July 1992).

XII. UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

80. In 1992, UNEP provided, through its Environmental Law and Institutions Programme Activity Centre (ELI/PAC), technical cooperation in the field of environmental law and institutions to the Governments of Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Mongolia, the Central African Republic, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Namibia, Benin, Sao Tome and Principe, the Gambia and Rwanda. UNEP organized a national workshop on environmental law and institutions in Lesotho and, in collaboration with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), another similar workshop for countries in the South Pacific subregion.

81. Initiatives were taken, in collaboration with UNDP and the World Bank, to develop inter-agency cooperation in the area of national legislation and institutions and training. The activities undertaken with UNDP were further developed through consultations between UNEP and UNFPA on the strategy, scope and content of a joint programme of assistance to African countries in the development of environmental legislation and institutions. UNEP worked closely with the World Bank in the implementation of its programme of assistance to Burundi. In addition to providing sectoral training courses, UNEP held several training courses and seminars on environmental management.

82. Clearing-house activities in such fields as the preparation of national environmental plans or strategies and the promotion of national capability-building for environmental management were undertaken in Burundi, Djibouti, Egypt, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Kenya, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Panama and Viet Nam. Technical assistance projects in environmental management funded up to 1989 by the Arab Gulf Programme of the United Nations (AGFUND) are being monitored and followed up.

83. Within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which was being negotiated at the time, UNEP provided support for the preparation of country studies on the costs, benefits and unmet needs of biological conservation in the Bahamas, Guyana, Nigeria, Poland, Peru and Thailand. These

studies were aimed at the preparation of national strategies and were also intended to facilitate the agreement on the establishment of a fund in support of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

84. INFOTERRA, the international environmental information system, responded to 24,500 queries in 1992. Fifteen countries joined the system, bringing the total number of participating countries to 155; the number of special sectoral sources rose from 31 to 35; one new regional service centre was added, making a total of 12, and the INFOTERRA international directory, comprising over 6,000 sources of environmental information, was updated.

85. In the field of energy-policy development, UNEP, in collaboration with the Government of India, formulated a project on environmentally sound energy development.

86. In 1992, the UNEP Global Resources Information Database Programme (GRID) provided assistance in the area of capacity-building to Thailand, Nepal, Western Samoa, Lesotho, Botswana and Kenya. There were 30 GRID-affiliated centres in the world as of December 1992.

87. At the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment Programme, UNEP worked in close cooperation with African Governments, NGOs and other development agencies regarding the implementation of necessary action in the area of energy and food security and of such measures as the strengthening of environmental machineries, the preparation of environmental action plans and programmes, the introduction of programmes in the area of environmental training and public awareness and the formulation and/or strengthening of environmental legislation.

88. UNEP is providing support for 24 projects under the Action Plan for the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, including the initial financing of the secretariat located at the UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. These projects are being implemented in close association with Governments, ECLAC, the regional offices of United Nations specialized agencies, intergovernmental bodies and subregional organizations.